IN LATE APPEAL, PRESIDENT SAYS, 'I AM PROFOUNDLY SORRY'

House Panel Votes to Impeach Clinton for Pérjury

EU Summit Leaders Agree to Act on Jobs

Fight Over Budget Unresolved in Vienna

By Barry James:

VIENNA — European Union leaders agreed to intensify joint action against unemployment Friday by set-ting "binding and verifiable" guidelines for job creation. But they ran into a brick wall over how to finance the \$100 billion an-

Germany's funding threats are rattling EU candidates. Page 4.

nual budget for the community, a problem that Germany said had to be settled before the Union could open its doors to new members in Eastern

and Central Europe. The heads of state and government, at the first day of their two-day summit conference in Vienna's historic imperial complex, agreed that finance ministers should work out a tougher jobs pact in time for approval at their hine summit meeting in Germany, They did not specify exactly what the jobs targets should be.

Unemployment in the EU stood at 16.8 million people in October, about 9.8 percent of the labor force. Although this is the first time unemployment has been below 10 percent in six years, Europe still has many more unemployed than the United States, and some economists fear that the rate could start rising again if an economic slowdown sets is. Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of

Germany, who made unemployment the priority of his election community.

other countries "to place the fight against unemployment at the center of

European policy."
In this spirit, they said, governments should "undertake to attainbinding and verifiable goals in the guidelines for employment, foremost young and the long-term unemployed, and in eradicating discrimination against women on the labor market."

At their summit meeting in Lux-embourg a year ago, the 15 EU countries agreed to submit their national employment plans for regular peer review. Now the time had come, said Prime Minister Lionel Jospin of France, for the EU to adopt new goals that could be measured by objective standards. Mr. Jospin said it was necessary to build a "social Europe."

Such words usually send shivers through financial markets, but the EU's commissioner in charge of monetary affairs said that all governments had agreed on bringing in balanced budgets earlier in the next century, and that markets had accepted that stability is an integral part of our economic culture."

With the agreement of 11 countries to adopt a single currency on Jan 1, the question of high unemployment is the laggest social problem facing the computatity. Criteria for belonging to the single currency demand low public debt and deficit, meaning that govenments cannot spend beyond certain limits to solve the crisis.

Mr. Rispin called for "social har mention," in which countries ization," in which countries See SUMMIT, Page 7



An Israeli passing posters in Jerusalem on Friday that protest Mr. Clinton's visit to Israel and Gaza.

For Palestinians, 'A New Era'

Fighter's Son, Advancing Clinton Visit, Takes a Different Path

By Lee Hockstader

- As he oversees the torrent of details governing the appearance of President Bill Clinton at he convention center here, Jihad Wazir can generally be found smack in the middle of things — as his father

Jihad Wazir is a Gaza businessman, and it is easy to spot him in the barely contained chaos that passes for advance work for the presidential visit to Palestinianruled Gaza: He is the amiable man with the clipboard and gold-rimmed glasses, the colloquial English and

wing tip shoes.

His father, Khalil Wazir, preferred olive-green fatigues and a Kalashnikov assault rifle. He was Yasser Arafat's boyhood friend, No. 1 aide and military chief. To Israel, he was a master terrorist.

Khalil Wazir, known by his nom de guerre Abu Jihad (father of Jihad), was slain in April 1988 by masked Israeli commandos who broke into his villa outside Tunis, killed his bodyguards, sprayed five or six dozen

bullets into his body and sped away. He was 52. A few hours later and several thousand miles away

in Rochester, New York, Jihad Wazir heard the news as he lay in bed listening to a shortwave radio. The oldest of six children, he had been close to his father but separated by distance, having spent most of his 20s in the United States. His father was assassinated after a heated debate in

the Israeli cabinet. At the time, Israeli advocates of the operation believed it would deprive the Palestinian popular uprising, then 4 months old, of its organ-izational brains. The killing, a setback for the military wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization, enraged Palestinians but did nothing to slow the momentum of the uprising.

The lives of the Wazirs, father and son, are a study in

contrasts, and in a modest way they speak to the gradual, ongoing evolution of Palestinian politics and society. The father directed Palestinian fighters who carried

out terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, according to Israeli security agencies. He believed in a Vi-etnamese model of fighting and negotiating, pressing Israel on parallel tracks. He saw the United States as the patron of his enemy and did what he could to help

21 Republicans: Yes 16 Democrats: No

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON - The House Judiciary Committee approved an article of impeachment against President Bill Clinton on Friday, just minutes after he addressed the American public on television and voiced his strongest apology yet for his actions in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

The article approved by the committee, the first of four to be voted on, alleges that Mr. Clinton perjured himself before the grand jury investigating him. It was approved on party lines, as expected.

The 21-to-16 vote in the 37-person committee followed some of the more rancorous debate that the highly partisan panel has heard. It presaged a wrench-ing week for members of the House, for the embattled chief executive and for the nation.

Mr. Clinton was attempting to answer the expected impeachment attempt when he said on television: "I want the American public and the Congress to know that I am profoundly sorry for what I have done wrong in words and deeds.

"I would give anything to go back and undo what I did," he continued in a five-minute speech.

The committee was also debating articles of imeachment alleging that Mr. Clinton perjured himself in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case, that he obstructed justice and that he abused the powers of his igh office.

He spoke as the White House girded for a fateful five days of delicate persuasion to prevent the full House from approving articles of impeachment, an indictment, and sending them to the Senate.

Mr. Clinton spoke Friday afternoon as he prepared

to leave Saturday on a mission to the Middle East and as his aides and allies were scrambling to find ways to prevent Republicans, and a few Democratic defectors, from reaching the simple majority — 218 votes —

needed by the House to impeach the president.

The full House will start debating Thursday on whether to attempt to remove the nation's chief executive from office.

Attempts to persuade undecided legislators were reaching a frenetic pitch, and some Republicans accused Democrats of unacceptably muscular tactics. As the Judiciary Committee moved Friday night

toward its momentous vote on the articles of impeachment, debate was rancorous to the end. Of the 37

See JIHAD, Page 7

See CLINTON, Page 3

Malaysia's Wary Welcome Indonesia's Ethnic Chinese Find a Haven For Now, But Their Future Is Uncertain

By Thomas Fuller

PENANG, Malaysia—It is 7 A.M. and the Mewah Court apartment com-lex is awash in orange sunlight, cov-ering up the mildew stains of the 20-

Outside the complex, a half-dezen women and their children are standing on the sidewalk. One would not know they were refugees from their clothes or the children's neatly combed hair or the yellow bus that takes them every morning to a nearby private school.

They are a special class of refugee: wealthy Indonesian Chinese who fled to Malaysia after riots and looting wrecked their hometowns in May. They came to Malaysia in Boeings, not overloaded boats, and they left behind servants and expensive cars.

As Ingrid, 40, who would only give her first name, waits to put her two youngest children on the school bus, she reminisces about her house in Indonesia and her maids and drivers.

One room in my house in Indonesia is the size of my entire apartment here," she says glancing toward the Mewah Court complex, which means "Luxury Court" but is something less than About 5,000 Indonesians like Ingrid

came to this Chinese enclave off the coast of peninsular Malaysia in May, according to the Indonesian Consulate here. Two thousand remain, most of them students and their parents or guardians. Despite their affluence, Malaysia has greeted them with an ambivalence wrapped up in the country's

complex, multiracial politics.
"On the one hand, we want their money — especially our educational institutions," said Khoo Kay Kim, a professor of history at the University of Malaya. "On the other hand, the Malays



Indonesian Chinese girls taking the bus to go school in Penang, Malaysia.

have the fear that if the Chinese pop-

Malaysia's ethnic Chinese population makes up 32 percent of the country's 22 million people — one of the

largest proportions in Southeast Asia — while the indigenous people constitute

For centuries the Chinese in both

See CHINESE, Page 7

ulation should increase, there could be

60 percent of the population.

In Day of Drama, Pinochet Rejects Court's Authority

By Warren Hoge New York Times Service

LONDON - General Augusto Pinochet, the former Chilean dictator, sternly tole, a London court Friday that he did not acknowledge the right of any ownt outside his country to consider.

Making his first appearance in public since his arrest two months ago, General Pinochet uttered his defiant claim at the end of a hearing on a Spanish order seeking his extradition to Mackid to stand trial on charges of crimes against

"With respect to Your Honor," the general said in Spanish, reading from a paper he held throughout the 20-minute session, "I do not recognize the jurisdiction of any other court, except in

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my country, to try me against all the lies of Spain." With a wave of his hand, he looked up and said, "That is all I want to

Clive Nicholls, the attorney who moments before had alerted the court that General Pinochet was "anxious" to make a statement, followed it up with assurances that no disrespect to the

court's anthority was intended.
"I hear what he says," said Graham
Parkinson, the magistrate. "My duty is to conduct this proceeding in accordance with the extradition act passed in

Friday @ 4 P.M.

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England, and I must do so. I do not take wheelchair he has used since under-

General Pinochet's wife, Lucia, had told supporters at a hotel rally Thursday night that her husband would "never lack the strength of mind to hold his head high in the name of Chile," and the general looked grimly determined to keep that pledge from the moment he entered the spare and cramped hearing

Dressed in a dark brown business suit, off-white shirt and gold tie, the 83year-old general was seated in the

going back surgery in early October, with his hands folded across the top of a wooden walking stick held between his

At the routine question to give his name, he drew himself up and said. "I am Augusto Pinochet Ugarte. I was commander in chief of the army, captain general of Chile, president of the republic and actually I am at the moment a nator of the republic." When Mr.

See PINOCHET, Page 7

GIs and North Koreans Said to Mingle in DMZ

Seoul Inquiry Ended Parties, Ex-Diplomat Says

By Don Kirk

International Herald Tribune

SEOUL - Astride one of the tensest borders in the world, U.S. and North Korean soldiers mingled for several years at parties in a liquorstocked game room in the truce village of Panmunjom, a former senior U.S. diplomat said Friday.

The get-togethers were halted only recently, when an investigation was reopened into the suspicious death in February of a South Korean Army lieutenant assigned to the Demilitarized Zone, said Kenneth Quinones, who visited North Korea frequently for the State Department.

"The United Nations command was hosting weekly beer and pizza parties for some years," Mr. Quinones said. "At first it was just U.S. and North Korean soldiers smiling through their teeth at one another to open up informal channels.

While he said the U.S. soldiers eventually believed that they were obtaining valuable information from the North Koreans, "you could never separate the wheat from the chaff' and they got "substantial misinformation." He said he was sure that what the North Koreans did and said at the parties was "well choreographed" by their superiors.

Mr. Quinones said the weekly get-togethers by U.S. and North Korean soldiers, oiled by beer and liquor supplied from the U.S. military post exchange system, were authorized by the UN command, which would not

The meetings "set a precedent" for a wide range of other previously unpublicized contacts between soldiers on both sides of the line, said Mr. Quinones, now head of the Asia Foundation here.

He said the meetings probably led to contacts between South and North Korean soldiers, which are illegal under the national security law of South

Officials said they were looking into the possibility that the South Korean officer was shot by one of his subordinates to cover up unauthorized contacts with enemy troops.

The death at first was recorded as a suicide, but Seoul said this week that it was investigating the case as a possible murder and arrested one soldier after learning that South Korean soldiers had had dozens of contacts with the North Koreans.

Mr. Quinones said he understood that "the party room was shut down" as a result.

He said he believed that South Korean authorities were fully aware that their own soldiers were meeting regularly with the North Koreans in the joint security area, a 124-acre site covering both sides of the crossing between North and South Korea.

"It's impossible for a South Korean to do anything up there without their knowledge," he said. "Everything is covered by videotapes and recording devices."

The gatherings in the party room were "bizarre at a time when we have

See DMZ, Page 7

AGENDA

DiMaggio in Coma as Infection Worsens

117.075 1.6715 "His outlook is very poor," Dr. Earl Barron said, pointing to a recurrence of

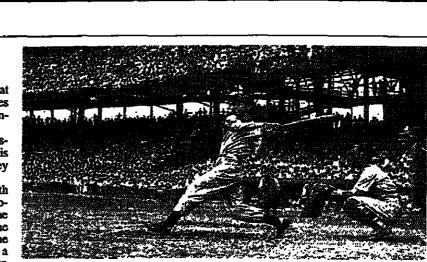
DiMaggio, the former baseball great, lapsed into a coma after his lung infection worsened, and his doctor said Friday that his chances of recovery

Page 8. Pages 24-25. Page 12

HOLLYWOOD, Florida (AP) - Joe the infection in DiMaggio's lungs that has put him near death several times since his surgery Oct. 14 for lung can-DiMaggio, 84, remained on a res-

pirator to help him breathe, although his blood pressure and heart and kidney functions were good. DiMaggio played 13 seasons with the New York Yankees. He was a two-

time batting champion and a three-time Most Valuable Player. His 56-game hitting streak in 1941 — one of the greatest feats in all sports -- is still a record, and his marriage to Marilyn Monroe in 1954 elevated his place in



Joe DiMaggio in action during a game in 1942 . He played in 11 All-Star games and 10 World Series in 13 seasons with the New York Yankees.

By Nicholas Wade New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Biologists have for the first time deciphered the full genetic programming of an animal, a landmark achievement both in its own right and as a milestone toward understanding human genetic material.

The animal is a microscopic roundworm known as Caenorhabditis elegans and is used in laboratories throughout the world as a means to

explore biology at the genetic level.

Researchers report that its genome, or full DNA, consists of 97 million chemical units and is predicted to contain 19,099 genes. If printed in ordinary type, the DNA sequence would take

up 2,748 pages of a newspaper.
The genome, deciphered by two teams of

biologists headed by John Sulston of the Sanger Center near Cambridge, England, and Robert Waterston of Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, has given biologists their first sight of the information needed to develop, operate and maintain a multi-cellular animal. The only genomes sequenced up until now have belonged to single-celled organisms like bacteria and yeast.

Because worms and humans have turned out to share many genes, the worm genome is regarded by biologists as an essential basis for understanding bow the human genome works.

"In the last 10 years we have come to realize humans are more like worms than we ever imagined," said Brace Alberts, president of the National Academy of Sciences and editor of a leading textbook on molecular biology.

Seeing the worm's complete genome is hum-Seeing the worm's complete genome is duffiling. Mr. Alberts said, because it makes biologists realize how much there is yet to understand. "We always underestimate the complexity of life, even of the simplest processes," he said. "So this is really only the beginning of unraveled the recent is generate a 10 years."

Completion of the worm's genome, a 10-year roject that was finished on schedule, also reinforces the credibility of the federal human genome project, which is locked in an undeclared race with a formidable new rival, a private enterprise named Celera.

Celera is owned by Perkin-Elmer, the company that makes the leading brand of DNA opencing machines.

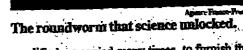
Mr. Sulston's work was financed by the Medical Research Council in Britain and the

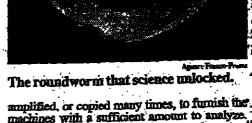
Wellcome Trust of London, Mr. Waterston's by the National Institutes of Health. The two teams worked in close cooperation although they were an ocean apart. They announced their effective completion of the genome in the Friday issue of

The task of sequencing the worm's genome was not the usual kind of academic research project. Both Mr. Waterston and Mr. Sulston had to transform their laboratories into semi-industrial plants employing more than 200 people each in almost round-the-clock operations.

One major problem in sequencing a genome is that the machines that analyze DNA can read segments of only 500 units or so in length. The full genome must be reconstituted from an inordinate number of small overlapping pieces.

Another complexity is that the DNA must be





Many regions of the worm genome, however

resist the usual amplification processes. Even'

now the genome, though effectively complete

has a few small gaps that remain to be filled in.

Serbs Try Mass Arrests in Kosovo

By Mike O'Connor New York Times Service

BELGRADE — Western diplomats and dissident Yugoslav officials say the forces of President Slobodan Milosevic appear to be turning to politically motivated arrests to counter the rapidly spreading influence of rebels in Kosovo

Moreover, the assassination last eveck of a guerrilla commander, initially Thought to be the result of a feud within rebel ranks, was described by the diplomats and officials as the first in what they predict will be a series of back-and-

"It will trigger a response," a Western diplomat said. "My expectation is the Albanians will do something like set off a bomb in a Serb market or assassinate a Serb official. If that happens, then the lid is off the next phase of the war, and there will be no stopping it.'

A Yugoslav security official who spoke on the condition of anonymity said: "The war will move to the cities, and it will be very bloody. This is a

dangerous move for everyone."

After threats from NATO,
Yugoslavia has all but stopped conventional attacks on the ethnic Albanian rebels who now operate freely in widening areas of Kosovo. But with traditional methods of repression, the gov-

ent can strike at the rebels and d a NATO reaction, Yugoslav of-

cials say. The government has stepped up one of the most effective measures of a police state: mass arrests and trials where the absence of elementary legal protections nearly ensures convictions. In the past few months, as many as

2,000 ethnic Albanians have been detained or have been sought for allegedly helping the rebels, according to United Nations estimates. As the Albanians say has often been the case since Mr. Milosevic stripped their broad autonomy and began tightening police control on Kosovo in 1989, suspects routinely are

torrured into signing confessions, which almost guarantee that they will be con-victed, international human rights officials say.

Homan rights monitors say those detained are so terrified they do not reveal that they have been tortured.

Under two bare lightbulbs dangling from a stained ceiling, police guards brought Ismet Gashi, a 36-year-old farmer, to stand before a three-judge panel Dec. 4 in the western city of Pec. He stood in an attitude of submission. shoulders down, eyes fixed on the dirty orange carpeting.

The government can strike at the rebels and avoid a NATO reaction, Yugoslav officials say.

> When they removed the handcuffs, he kept his wrists jammed together. silently assuring his guards that he was still under their control.

A judge read his signed confession. He had admitted joining the rebels and being with them in three villages. The confession was similar to hundreds of others in which defendants say they fought for the rebels or fed them or in some way were a party to what the

government calls terrorism. But when the chief judge asked Mr. Gashi to affirm his confession, the defendant did something that made the police officers present begin to fidget.

'They beat me and made me sign that," Mr. Gashi said, mumbling at first. As he continued, his voice gained strength. "They beat me so much that I could not walk afterward. I needed 10 minutes just to put my signature on the

Then he indicated why disclosures like his were rare. "Just before court, the police told me they would be waiting for me afterward, and if I did not agree with the confession, I would see what happened to me," he said.

Ariana Zherka, a field worker for the Humanitarian Law Center who attended the hearing, said, "I've never heard anything like it before. He will have big problems now." Ms. Zherka said she thought that the presence of a reporter for an American newspaper in the courtroom had emboldened the defendant.

The authorities in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, and Belgrade had no comment on the accusations of torture and

forced confessions. ■ Envoy Wants to Speed Talks

Christopher Hill, the U.S. envoy, said Friday he was not giving up his role negotiating a compromise on Kosovo but "would like to do less shuttling and more negotiating," Reuters reported from

Skopje, Macedonia.

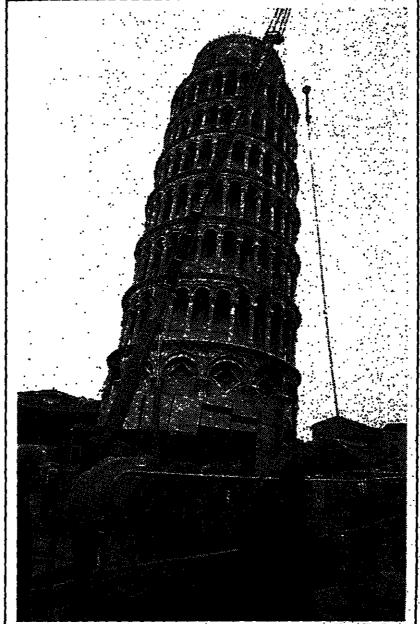
"We need to invigorate the process," he said. "My shuttling will continue, but I have made clear I would like to do less shut-

tling and more negotiating."
The U.S. negotiator has been trying to find a compromise between ethnic Albanian demands for independence and Serbian insistence that the province remain within its borders. His diplomatic efforts became bogged down this week when both sides condemned his latest

"The parties have been talking more and more about their desire to speak face-to-face. Of course we have no objections to that," Mr. Hill said. "They can speak standing on their heads as long as they are serious about reaching

He said there were some ideas for trying to speed negotiations but declined to give details. "I don't want to get too specific about what the ideas are but I do want to say that we will inensify the negotiating process,"

Mr. Hill has spent months shuttling between Belgrade and the capital of Kosovo, where Yugoslav security forces conducted a fierce offensive against separatist guerrillas this year.



STRAIGHTEN UP -- Workers began attaching steel braces to the Leaning Tower of Pisa on Friday before excavation work, designed to stabilize the 189-foot bell tower, begins. The tower, which began to list in the late 13th century, has been closed to tourists since 1990.

BRIEFLY

Kurd Rebel Leader Plans to Quit Post

ROME - Abduliah Ocalan. the Kurdish rebel leader who is fighting extradition to Turkey, said in an in-terview published in Italy on Friday that he would announce his resignation as leader of the Kurdish Workers Party in a television broadcast.

Mr. Ocalan told the newspaper II Manifesto that he was planning to step down as part of a restructuring of the party, which is outlawed in Turkey. But he added that he was not advocating renunciation of the armed struggle.

A spokeswoman for the Greens party which has followed the Ocalan Ce closely, confirmed the report. One of Mr. Ocalan's two Italian lawyers, Luigi

Saraceni, is a Greens deputy.

Kurdish sources said Mr. Ocalan had decided to postpone the statement until Sunday evening.

Chechen Official Safe

GROZNY, Russia - The prosecutor in Russia's breakaway region of Chechnya was reported missing Friday morning but later returned to the mgional capital of Grozny, Interfax news agency said. It cited representatives of

the prosecutor's office as its source. Chechen officials earlier said that the official, Mansor Tagirov, disappeared overnight after he attended a funeral in the west of the region.

Chechnya has experienced lawlessness and banditry since the end of a 1994-1996 war with Russian troops who were sent to crush an independence move. Moscow withdraw its forces after the war and exerts no control over region, although no country has re-

ognized Chechnya as independent.
On Tuesday, the severed heads if four Western hostages seized in Grozny in October were discovered in a sack on a Chechen highway. Mr. Tagirov is heading the investigation into the

Le Pen Orders His No. 2 in Far-Right French Party to Be Disciplined

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PARIS - A split in France's far-right

National Front widened Friday when Jean-Marie Le Pen, the party leader, ordered disciplinary action against his would-be successor, Bruno Megret.

In a statement broadcast live on French television, Mr. Le Pen said Mr. Megret and four other top Front members had been suspended from the party as "mutineers" before disciplinary action was taken.

Mr. Le Pen, who is facing a widening

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za, or send detailed resome f FREE EVALUATION Pacific Western University rebellion from supporters of Mr. Megret, called on Front members to rally to his side. The two have clashed over Mr. Megret's strategy of cooperating with

mainstream conservative parties.

The Megret camp has been collecting petitions from Front members to call a special party conference next month that could lead to a vote on Mr. Le Pen's removal. "The plot was hatched a long while

back," Mr. Le Pen said. "I will not abandon the ship's helm to a

handful of perfidious lieutenants and quartermasters," he said. Mr. Le Pen dismissed Mr. Megret from his job as No. 2 man this past week, strip-

ping him of the title of general delegate.
On Friday, at party headquarters in Saint-Cloud, adjacent to Paris, Mr. Le Pen announced: "At my request, the executive bureau has suspended the membership" of Mr. Megret and four others. He said it was waiting for them to appear before our disciplinary institution.

Mr. Megret's camp, which has moved into its own building, claims it has almost all the 10,000 signatures necessary to hold

Among those suspended was Serge Mar-tinez, a former loyalist who on Monday made the original call for a party congress and was dismissed as chief of personnel. Also suspended was Philippe Olivier, the companion of Mr. Le Pen's daughter, Marie-Caroline Le Pen, who has been accused by her father of betraying him. (AFP, AP)

WEATHER

Turkish Police Freed

AFYON, Turkey - A Turkish court freed Friday, pending a verdict, five policemen charged with beating in death a journalist in a case regarded as a test of Turkey's efforts to improve its ıman rights record.

The five officers had been sentenced to more than seven years in jail each for the manslaughter of a reporter, Manslaughter of a reporter he was detained by the police with dozens of demonstrators in Islanbul in January 1996.

But that verdict was overturned this year and a remial ordered.

TRAVEL UPDATE

French Rail Workers End Strike

PARIS (AFP) -- Rail traffic was back to normal Friday in France as a two-week strike by ticket inspectors ended.

Traffic was normal on high-speed links between France and other countries as well as on national lines. Workers in the few remaining regions still on strike early Friday -- those around Nantes in the west, Bordeaux in the southwest and the southeastern town of Chambery - voted to end the strike early in the afternoon. Elsewhere, mainline trains were run-

ning on schedule.

Ticket inspectors had begun the strike over staffing levels.

Management vowed to increase the number of inspectors but refused to commit to specific figures.

Security was tightened Friday around the Masai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya after a gang of three hooded men attacked tourists headed there, said Richard Leakey, director of the Kenya Wildlife Service. In two incidents Thursday on the same stretch of road, bandits attacked six tourist vans and stole valuables and passports. No one was reported injured. The attacks were the seventh and eighth this year in the same

Correction

A quotation from a White House official complaining about the release of proposed articles of impeachment before President Bill Clinton's team completed its presentation to the House Judiciary Committee was misattributed in Friday's issue. It was the presidential counselor Paul Begala who said: "Somewhere in Australia, a million kangaroos are embarrassed by the name that this is giving their court system."

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and mid-Atlantic states
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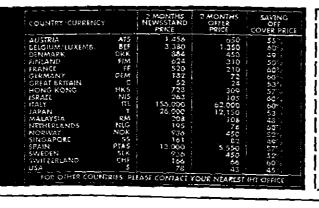
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It's Theater All Right, But Which Play Will Bring Down the House? By Guy Gugliotta

TWASHINGTON — It was a two-act play fraturing sex, lies, videotape and notane, and it offered a rationale for cone—Republican, Democrat, apolegist of conspiracy theorist — who still needed a way to think about President Bill Clinton, Monica Lewinsky and im-

The Democratic counsel to the House Indiciary Committee, NEWS Abbe D. Lowell, west ANALYSIS first He was the theatrical Washingtonian, a world-wise cleaner-upper of dirty lame-dry, sent in to debunk the preposterous charges and repeatedly warn the committee that a vote to impeach could "doom the country" to "ordeal and paralysis of government" for months to come. Was America ready for that?

David P. Schippers, the Republican misel, went last He was the outraged utsider, a father of 10 from Chicago, methodically walking the committee through reams of evidence to prove that it was perjury, it was obstruction of Mr. Schippers warned the panel justice, it was abuse of power, it was "an against setting the bar too high. attack upon and utter disregard for the

truth, and for the rule of law." With the minds of committee mem- them.

1 N. 1

es established



millions of Americans arrayed behind

Schippers and Mr. Lowell rehashed the underlying dispute that has festered in the American consciousness ever since Mr. Clinton arrived in Washington:

Is he an inspirational but flawed leader who has ably steered the nation through six years of unparalleled prosperity? Or is he an opportunist who managed to parlay his Arkansas vandeville act into a six-year gig at the

White House? Mr. Lowell spoke for two hours, and his testimony was riveting. He walked the committee through the charges one by one, explaining them away as he drew the picture of a president anxious to conceal an illicit relationship from his family at the same time that lawyers in what he believed was a politically motivated lawsnit were trying to entrap

Mr. Lowell played previously unre-leased videotape of Mr. Clinton, during his Jan. 17 deposition in the Paula Jones suit, staring impassively at the camera while lawyers argue about the definition of "sexual relations." "This term would really be confusing," says one voice. "This means all things to all people," says another. "It's very unfair," someone replies. "I think it's a

political trick." It went on and on. Mr. Clinton sipped bers virtually made up, the two lawyers. But though the argument Thursday coffee while his lawyer remarked that were speaking to the 20 or 30 uncom- was about impeachment and the affair this "is almost like an automobile acmitted House members waiting to vote between Mr. Clinton and a former White cadent where the plaintiff's counsel on impeachment next week and to the House intern, in their own way Mr. wants to ask the defendant, 'Are you Webber Wright remarks: "If you want that I have ever seen.



Mr. Lowell said to impeach would "dilute" constitutional standards.

possible" so as not to have to utter dirty

In the end, U.S. District Judge Susan

insisted, "we want to be as discreet as

negligent?' " " No, an opposing lawyer

for years, trying to get at the truth.

to know the truth, I'm not sure Mr.

Clinton knows all these definitions."

Mr. Lowell made the committee squirm

said. And, "I was brought up with lies all

He played a tape montage of Kenneth

Yes, he continued, this is a conspiracy. When Ms. Lewinsky told the grand This "havoc and confusion," Mr. Low- jury " 'nobody told me to lie,' " he said, ell concluded, lies at the core of the nobody had to. "Monica knew what was perjury allegations against the president: expected of her." And while she may 'Does anyone in this room, does anyone have said "'nobody ever promised me a in the United States, understand this job," Mr. Schippers said, after she filed definition?" a false affidavit, "she got one, didn't

Or what about obstruction of instice? He narrated the whole Clinton-Lewinsky saga in his flat Chicago accent, by playing tapes of Ms. Lewinsky talking on the telephone with her erstwhile interspersing the story with his own video clips, most of them featuring the friend Linda Tripp: "We didn't have sex; we fooled around," Ms. Lewinsky president dancing around the truth or

telling what appear to be outright false-hoods in his Jones deposition. At the end, neither Mr. Lowell nor Mr. Starr, the independent counsel, telling Schippers had trouble telling the comthe committee repeatedly, "I don't re-call," "I'm not recalling," "I don't know." And yet for Mr. Clinton, Mr. Lowell said, the committee "wants to mittee where it had gone wrong or where

it ought to go, and both men were wor-ried about "the bar." The committee was fatally "lowering

make presidential lapses of memory im-peachable offenses." the bar" to impeachment, Mr. Lowell said in a tone of controlled outrage. It said in a tone of controlled outrage. It Mr. Schippers was not as compelling, was too willing "to dilute the constibut his views are those of people who tutional standard" or "lower the burden have never trusted Mr. Clinton and have of proof" or "reverse the presumption

been willing to wade through the smoke of innocence. No, Mr. Schippers said five hours Mr. Schippers would provide it. "The later. "If you don't impeach as a conevidence and testimony must be viewed as a whole," he said, "It cannot be compartmentalized." Don't be "cajoled tatives will ever be able to impeach into considering each event in isola-again." His voice shook with finger-tion," he warned. "This is the tactic of wagging intensity. "The bar will be so wagging intensity. "The bar will be so defense lawyers in every conspiracy trial high, that only a convicted felon or a

traitor will need to be concerned."

Stress of Inquiry Takes a Toll on Henry Hyde

By Frank Bruni

verbal assaults Representative Henry Hyde had endured, this one had an Especially sharp edge.

History, Representative Max-ries, and subjected Mr. Hyde to death ine Waters, Democrat of California threats and the constant escort of a and one of the House Judiciary Com- security detail.

beyond the usual quibblingon the remembered for, he did not mention bommittee. Mr. Hyde listened to it the impeachment inquiry. this week with his customary air of lier attack on me."

As the committee proceeded this

WASHINGTON — Of the many tience, prudence and fairness had that little fissures were appearing in intense scrutiny, the impeachment income to this: supervision of a process that had failed to win broad popular

and one of the ricose moleculary Com-patitee's most liberal members, told "It's stressful, extremely stress-its Republican chairman, "will not be ful," he said to reporters just before he left the hearing room Wednesday Although the statement went far night. Asked what he would like to be

subdued dignity. He even drolly Mr. Hyde, who is perhaps best known asked the committee's consent that for his advocacy in 1976 of the "Hyde "the gentle larly be permitted to finish. Amendment." which restricted the fier attack on me." But other committee members and has also voted for programs to provide Mr. Hyde's friends said that behind aid for children once they are born. "I that quip was undoubtedly some an- accomplished some things, and when my time comes, I'll be missed."

Several committee members said a

a single act of stewardship. Nearly a was being browbeaten excessively.

quarter century in Congress and a Jack Halin, a close longtime friend

the Illinois congressman's famously

unflappable demeanor. "He came walking into that hearing the other day looking like he was affair of three decades ago, remarks 15 limping," Mr. Hahn said. "Last years ago that urged leniency for a week, he banked at a few people. Republican congressman facing expul-That's not Henry Hyde, believe sion for sexual misconduct with a teen-

When Mr. Hyde held a special press conference Monday, pointing to 1987 that ridiculed the righteousness of four tall white columns of boxes to demonstrate that the committee had "I was a good congressman," said considered 60,000 pages of grand jury testimony and was not acting rashly in for his handling of the inquiry itself, calling so few witnesses, his voice which has occasionally veered off in had a defensive ring.

He also sent a letter to Republican members of the House that beseeched them not to state their opinions about impeachment until the committee had finished its work.

During the hearings this week, he week toward a landmark vote on ar- tone of gennine self-pity had crept defended a course at odds with the walks on water," said one staff memticles of impeachment, its 74-year-old into Mr. Hyde's voice for perhaps the prevailing public sentiment, comber for Democrats on the committee.

had taken a poll, he would never have preached the Gospel.

By subjecting Mr. Hyde to such quiry has unearthed aspects of his past he might well have preferred to keep buried. They include an extramarital age congressional page, and a statement during the Iran-contra hearings in people who "label every untruth and

every deception an outrage.' Mr. Hyde has also drawn criticism surprising directions.

"There's a feeling of constant, constant gibes from everybody," said Philip Corboy, another longtime friend. "It's torture for him."

Others were less sympathetic. "He's used to being treated as if he hairman found his entire political first time last week when he commenting to one witness, a Jesuit "and I think he's shocked and surly breer and public image distilled into plained during the hearings that he priest: "Someone said that if Jesus that his feet have gotten wet."

do not do them.

POLITICAL NOTES

مكذامن الأصل

Clinton Foe Defensive

WASHINGTON - One of President Judiciary Committee acknowledged Friday that he spoke to a group that promotes white supremacy, but insisted he does not share such views.

Representative Robert Barr, Republican of Georgia, who first called for Mr. Clinton's impeachment more than a year ago. said in a CNN interview that Mr. Clinton's defenders were "trying to label me a racist cidedly different from mine.

Alan Dershowitz, a Harvard University law professor, complained about Mr. Barr's publican of Illinois, chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Dershowitz said Friday he decided to alert Mr. Hyde to Mr. Barr's speech to the council because he had clashed with Mr. Barr while testifying at the impeachment hearings over Mr. Barr's use of the term 'real America.' The lawyer said that term often has quitted him of 30 charges. (WP)

been used as a code word for bigotry The World Wide Web site of the Council of Conservative Citizens includes numerous articles suggesting that the white race is

Bill Clinton's fiercest critics on the House under siege. One editorial, titled "A Call to White America," says: "If we want to live, white Americans must begin today to lay the foundations for our future and our children's fature."

Espy Back in Triumph

WASHINGTON - Former Agriculture because I attended an event at which there secretary Mike Espy, who resigned amid are people who have views that are dereturned triumphant to the agency he once ran as his portrait was unveiled and hung.

Mr. Espy, the first black to head the appearance at last summer's convention of agency, was greeted Thursday with a raucthe Council of Conservative Citizens in a ous ovation and chants of "Espy!" letter to Representative Henry Hyde, Re- from the crowd of several hundred during the noontime event featuring President Clinton.

The event capped a remarkable turn of fortune for Mr. Espy, who was once a rising political star from Mississippi but who last week was sitting in a courtroom, on trial for

CLINTON: House Committee Approves Article of Impeachment

Continued from Page I

Members were voting on two articles alleging perjury, to last weeks or months one of obstruction of justice. Mr. Clinton still app and one of abuse of power. ... Democrats said that the arficles, drafted by Republicans, were so profoundly Tlawed as to make amendthent pointless. Instead weary legislators sought to drive home their objections

Those objections clearly were intended for a larger audience — the 435 members of the House, who have been summoned back to Washingfron for a historic vote -- and are likely to foreshadow the

member of the Indiciary Committee conceded that Mr. The president wants to Clinton had lied about his re- avoid the personal humililationship with Ms. Lewin-sky, a former White House intern, and said that his conduct was deeply troubling, but insisted that there was inshifticient evidence to prove erjury and inadequate cause for impeachment.

Purposentative Charles Schumer, a Democrat from New York, asked for "exnlicit statements" about which language from Mr. Elinton was considered to be

sachusetts, called the perjury allegation "trivial and im-possible to prove." It deals with Mr. Clinton's denial that he conched certain parts of Rue Lewinsky's body.

A Republican, Representative Bill McCollum of Florida, called the Democratic arguments 'a smokescreen." Another Republican, Representative James Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin, accused the Democrats of a "clever ruse" intended to limit the evidence that the Senate might consider during a trial.

clear in hours of bitterly pertisan debate, are extremely

president, after Andrew John-son in 1868, to be impeached. More than one Democratic Mr. Johnson survived a Senate trial by a single vote.

ation and national distraction of a Senate trial. He also hopes to rescue what political

"This is an issue where twisting arms isn't appropri-ate," said Joe Lockhart, the

fate at its most fragile, Mr. Clinton was set to leave the country Saturday for a fourday Middle East visit.

cluding its work, which began in September when the independent counsel Kenneth Starr delivered 36 boxes of transcripts and evidence compiled during a nine-month investigation, in the same room where charges against President Richard Nixon were debated in 1974.

He resigned before a vote on impeachment by the full

The committee was likely to vote on the Democrats'

If approved by the House chment articles would go

Republicans control the convict and remove the pres-

The stakes, as Indiciary

Mr. Clinton hopes to escape becoming only the second

White House spokesman, "but bending ears is." Yet, even with his political

The committee was con-



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censure motion on Tuesday, and the vote still appears but it appeared that the Remembers, 21 are Republi- too close to predict — im- publican leadership might prevent such a motion from

to the Senate for a trial likely reaching the House floor. Mr. Clinton still appears Hyde, the committee chaircertain to survive a test in the man, sought Friday to im-Senate, if it comes to that. The press the gravity of the moment on fellow committee chamber, 55 seats to 45, but members even while defendthey are unlikely to reach the ing himself and Republican two-thirds majority needed to members from Democratic House on Aug. 17. complaints about the workings of the committee.

The process under way, he Committee members made it said, was 'not a vengeful one, it's not vindictive and it's not crazy."

The president, Mr. Hyde

said, was guilty of "an assault on the rule of law." He said that Mr. Clinton's conduct in the Lewinsky matter "cheapens" the oath of

"It is a breach of promise to tell the truth," he said. "It subverts our system of gov-Democratic

arguments against impeachment as a 'so-what defense" — boiling down, he said, to grudging acknowledgment that Mr. Clinton's behavior had been unworthy, but that it did not

merit impeachment. Representative John Conyers of Michigan, a Democrat who served on the Judiciary That would bring him back Committee during the Water-Representative Barney to Washington two days be gate hearings against Mr. Frank, Democrat of Mas- fore the full House special Nixon, belittled the evidence

against Mr. Clinton. "This charge of perjury sion to abuse of power.

does not meet the minimal

standards of due process,' Mr. Conyers said. Of the four articles of impeachment that the committee was considering, the first alleges that Mr. Clinton "willfully provided perjurious, false and misleading testimony" in his grand jury testimony from the White

The second charges that he "willfully provided perjuri-ous, false and misleading testimony" in swom, written answers on Dec. 23, 1997, for lawyers in the sexual harassment lawsuit filed by Paula Jones and on Jan. 17 during testimony before them; the third that Mr. Clinton sought through seven separate acts to obstruct justice in the Jones case; and the fourth that he was guilty of the "misuse and abuse" of his presidential powers by asserting execu-

tive privilege to block aides' testimony before the grand The battle for the votes of House members became in-

creasingly raw Friday. tial aides and allies telephoning House members to sound them out, some Republicans complained of what they said

verged on jury-tampering. A Judiciary Committee tember, Representative Robert Barr of Georgia, said the White House had crossed the line from gentle persua-

Thursday

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Every Thursday in the International Herald

Jesus went to Jerusalem (II)

"Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes saying: 'The scribes and the pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses; therefore all what they tell you-do and observebut do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and

And they tie up heavy loads and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as a finger.

And they love the place of honor at banquets, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and respectful greetings in the market places.' "

MATTHEW XXIII



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By Peter S. Green International Herald Tribune

PRAGUE — The European Union's eastern neighbors are growing concerned that their planned membership could be delayed well into the next decade if Germany carries through on threats to cut its contribution to the organization's budget and if talks on EU

internal reforms stall.
On Thursday, Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder warned that unless Germany was able to reduce the amount it pays each year into the EU budget, largement will be harder to achieve, if it can be achieved at all."

Germany pays the EU 22 billion Deutsche marks (\$13 billion) more than it gets back. Slow growth and high unemployment at home mean that Germany's new government sees its priorities there, not abroad.

With the weekend coming, most Eastern capitals did not react to Mr. Schroeder's comments, but the Czech Foreign Ministry was careful not to criticize its neighbor. "We understand Germany's auxiety." a spokesman said. "We hope that EU reforms will not delay our accession." Political leaders out of government

were more open. In Prague, Michal Lobkowicz, a

member of Parliament, said that Mr. Schroeder's statements represented a step back from what he described as the clear and forceful vision of a united Europe launched by former Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

"Any postponement of enlargement would cause disillusion in countries like ours," he said. "I don't think it's crucial or important if we become members in 2003 or 2004. The crucial thing is that it's on the horizon, that there's a clear perspective of a unified Europe and that we are welcome in this space.

'These countries need to feel that we share this big vision of a prosperous and friendly Europe. We felt it after '89, and it helped us to overcome the main difficulties." Mr. Lobkowicz said.

Two years ago, Germany and France

they see 2003 or 2004 as a good target for candidates, but warn that negotiations and ratification by the 15 members could

add at least two years to the schedule. Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Estonia and Slovenia all hope to join an expanded EU, but the organization insists that it first must agree on complex internal reforms in the Agenda 2000 document, setting spending and other priorities for 2000 to 2006, including a reform of its expensive farm

subsidy program.

Most of these tough decisions are to be made next year when Germany assumes the EU's rotating presidency.
"It must be clear," Mr. Schroeder

told the German Parliament, "agreement on Agenda 2000 is a precondition for having serious talks about taking in new neighbors."

The Easterners are well aware that the EU's first concern is its current 15 members and that expansion comes second.
"Everything depends on the reforms

"There can be no enlargement without reforming the Common Agricultural Policy," he continued. "A country like Poland with 9 or 10 million farmers cannot be kept affoat."

In Hungary, Peter Gottfried, state secretary for EU integration, says he will be following the EU's Vienna summit meeting this weekend with care. "At this moment, what is most im-

portant to us is to have the debate on internal reforms concluded under the German presidency," Mr. Goufried said. The EU says Hungary has taken the greatest strides toward adopting the EU's 80,000 pages of regulations and Hungary's center-right government says it will be ready to join by Dec. 31, 2002.

"If the ground is cleared and the question is "When is Hungary ready?", then we have really no concern," Mr. Cottfried added

EU officials say that dates are good 'targets'' but that actual entry dates do

promised that Poland would join the Union by 2000. Now, EU officials say lives, a former foreign minister of Esting," said Lousewies van der Laan, the commission's spokesman on East-ern enlargement. "They take on lives of their own. They will join when they are

But Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the former Polish prime minister who now heads his Parliament's EU committee, says

dates are vitally important.
"The date itself has both a symbolic and a real meaning," he said. "First, it means that we are awaited and welcome. Second, the fact that the date is fixed means more motivation and selfdiscipline for the Poles and consequently improvement in the preparation process.

Commissioner Hans van den Broek, the EU's point man on enlargement, denies that enthusiasm for growth is

"Do not be misled into thinking that reports of discussions inside the Union imply less of a commitment to enlarge-ment," he said. "A robust debate usually signals that a major deal is on the way."

Supreme Court **Stops Execution**

HOUSTON — The U.S. Supreme Court has delayed the execution of a Canadian whose government had ap-pealed for his life, saying he had been denied the right to speak with consular officials as guaranteed by international

The stay, one of several over the last decade for the inmate, Joseph Stanley Faulder, came Thursday, 30 minutes before he was to receive a lethal injection in the Texas death chamber.

A spokesman for the Supreme Court said the justices needed more time to consider Mr. Faulder's case. While Mr. Faulder has another appeal before the Supreme Court, prison officials in Texas said the stay was granted to consider the consular issue. The court set no date for hearing the appeal, but state officials said no execution date could be scheduled for another 30 days.

While last-minute appeals in death penalty cases are common, it was Mr. Faulder's standing as a Canadian citizen that brought international attention to the case. The Vienna Convention on Consular Relations requires that people arrested in a foreign country be allowed to seek help from their country's consul.

That courtesy was not extended to Mr. Faulder when he was arrested in 1977 and charged with fatally beating and stabbing a wealthy 75-year-old woman in a July 1975 robbery. Texas officials said they did not realize that Mr. Faulder, who had a Texas driver's license, was from Canada.

U.S. Unveils Hurricane **Debt Relief**

By Thomas W. Lippman

WASHINGTON - The Chioton administration has joined several European countries and the World Bank in promising Nicaragea and Honduras a massive new package of debt relief and financial aid to help them recover from the ravages of the recent hurricane.

The assistance includes more than \$1.5 billion in new development grants, a three-year respite from repayment of bilateral debt. additional money to cover pay ments due to international ba and an eventual write-off of large chunks of their foreign debts.

Thursday as leaders of five Central American countries, including the presidents of Nicaragua and Honduras, began a series of meetings in Washington designed to secure-long-term help to overcome not only the storm damage, but also the endemic poverty that has afficied the region for generations and mag-nified the suffering caused by the hurricane, designated Mitch.

The storm, which swept across Central America last month, killed an estimated 9,000 people in Nicaragua, Honduras, Gustemala Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador, and devastated roads, bridges, homes, electrical lines, crops and livestock. Nicaragua and Honduras, hardes hit and deepest in debt, will benefit most from the agreements. President Bill Clinton was to offer the package formally at a White House meeting Friday, and will tell the presidents that he plans to visit the region, probably in February, of-

The total value of the grants, loans and debt relief is difficult to evaluate because of numerous variables in the debt-relief component, said officials who estimated the overall aid would amount to several billion dollars. The debt relief agreement for Honduras, for example, is comingent upon that country's reaching an economic restructuring agreement with the In-ternational Monetary Fund, said Undersecretary of State Stuart

According to the private relief gency Oxfam international, Nicaragua's total foreign debt is about \$6.1 billion, and debt service payments last year consumed more than half of government revenue.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Watching the Talk Shows for Credit

Needless to say, it is a popular class, students at Beaver College in Glenside, Pennsylvania, come to Lisa Holderman's classroom each Monday, turn on the television, and settle in to watch one of the highly popular day-time talk shows, the ones known most often by a single name: Oprah or Jerry or Ricki or Montel. They take in shows with titles like "You Took My Man.""I Once Was Fat, But Now I'm All That" or "Teen Thug Update."

Fine. But the academic value? "It's never just pure entertainment," Ms. Holderman told The Philadelphia Inquirer. "You're always being socialized in some way." She calls the shows, with all their trash talk and furnime throwing, "a significant part of our culture," and uses them to explore attitudes to race, gender, appearance and class.

For the students, an eye-opener came when they joined the audience for a taping of "Montel." They learned that everything, from who gets to ask questions to where audience members sit, is carefully planned. One student, Karen Kuliczkowski, says that now when she watches Jerry Springer she thinks, "Oh, that's fake, that's fake." But she and the others have not stopped watching.

Short Takes

Some students at Barnard College were infuriated when they saw a line in a brochure for the elite New York school: that graduates of women's colleges were more likely to marry and have children than women graduating from co-ed colleges. The claim, in a section on "Alumnae Achievement," played into a stereotype, students said. Sarah Chefitz, a senior and religion major, led a petition drive, saying that the line reflected "an unfounded fear that attending an all-



YOU BETTER WATCH OUT -- A Santa Claus doll and packages of traditional holiday panettone on exhibit in a Rome shop window Friday. Two of Nestle company's popular brands of the dessert bread, Motta and Alemagna, were being withdrawn from stores throughout Italy after an animal rights group said it had injected them with rat poison.

women's college will inevitably result in lesbianism or spinsterhood,"The New York Times reports. Barnard finally agreed to delete the offending passage.

It is no surprise that Christmas, with all the pressure to buy gifts for friends, families and fellow workers, has become more a time of stress than a season to be jolly. But a consumer group (actually an anti-consumer group) called the Center for a New American Dream has put numbers to this.

Ninety-two percent of Americans, it found, believe they spend more money than they can afford during the holidays; 64 percent would spend less if their family made changes as well; 82 percent said they

would be happier to receive a family photo album than

When Virginia Beach, Virginia, created a park atop a former landfill in 1973, it became a pioneer in an approach to reclaiming land that has since become commonplace, reports Governing magazine.

But some city officials would now like to change the official name of the park, built on alternating layers of trash and soil: Mount Trashmore. They say the name scares away companies thinking of relocating in the area.

----- Brian Knowlton

German Greens Meet to Debate a Party Overhaul

The Associated Press

BONN - The Greens party, born of protest against establishment politics, opened a three-day convention Friday aimed at overhauling the party structure to enable it to hold its own as the junior partner in the new Social Democratic-

ed government. The meeting will also address ways to avoid public squabbles over policy. "People expect the Greens to show

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Paris and Suburbs

ditionally loose organization, and pro-posals to give national leaders more power are expected to trigger controversy at the convention in Leipzig.
Party leaders, who say the Greens must bolster their success by strength-

professionalism and consistency as a governing party, and rightly so," Gunda Roestel, a party co-leader, told the Leipziger Volkszeitung newspaper.

Many Greens cherish the party's traditionally loose organization and discipline, will seek delegates' approval to create a council to coordinate among Greens lawnakers, the national leadership and local activists. The estimated 750 delegates will also choose the new party. egates will also choose the new party leadership.

The Greens rose to national power in the September elections, gaining three cabinet posts when they joined the Social Democrats in a coalition.

of Europe

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Thai Jet Crash Kills Scores; 43 Survive

BANGKOK — A Thai Airways Airhus carrying 146 people crashed Friday in heavy rain near an airport in southern

Thailand, the police said. The police said that scores of people were killed but at least 43 survived. The evening crash occurred near Sur-

at Thani, about 500 kilométers (about 330 miles) south of Bangkok. Local TV footage from the crash site, about five kilometers from the Surat

Thani airport, showed at least eight survivors, all of them conscious. One of those shown on television was

a boy, about 10, with injuries to his He and other shaken and injured survivors were helped into vehicles to get

medical attention. At least four of the survivors, who were bloodied and rain-soaked were Westerners, apparently two couples: Thai Airways Flight TG261, carrying 32 passengers and 14 crew members.

had been on its way to Surat Thani from Bangkok when it crashed in Boon Pin district at 6:45 P.M., the police in Surat

A police officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the plane made three times around the airport in a heavy storm before trying to land. Visibility remained bad on the final ap-

Initial reports said one engine had exploded, but the police said it was unclear whether the plane had engine trouble before it crashed.

Rain was heavy in Surat Thani, and rescuers were having difficulty sending ambulances to the crash site, a swampy

Thai Airways released a manifest that indicated that most of the 132 passengers aboard the flight were Thais, but there were also several Western and Japanese names.

The manifest did not list the nation-

A group of French aeronautics experts are heading for Thailand to help the Thai authorities investigate the

Delegations from Airbus Industrie and the Bureau of Accident Inquiry will seek the cause of the crash.

Airbus has released some details of the fatal flight. The plane was an A 310-200, delivered to Thai Airways in April

Transport and Communications Minister Suthep Thaugsuban said in Bangkok that his sister Siriwan had

been on the flight.
He said that he, too, had been scheduled to be on the flight until he canceled at the last minute.

Mr. Suthep, who did not know the condition of his sister, expressed dismay that he learned about the crash first from relatives in Surat Thani, rather than from the airline, which is mostly owned by the government and which he (AP, Reuters, AFP)

3 Disappearances

Fear of Reprisals

TEHRAN — The disappearances

of three Iranian dissident writers in

the last month comes at a time of

heightened tensions between Pres-

ident Mohammed Khatami, who has

been promoting reforms, and con-

servative forces in the Islamic gov-

ernment who have been the main

author and translator, disappeared

after he left his Tehran office Wed-

nesday afternoon, his relatives said

Associates of Mr. Pouyandeh,

said they believed he had been

killed, adding to concerns that crit-

ics of the government are becoming

the targets of violence and intim-

Mr. Pouyandeh, 45, was the third

Iranian dissident writer to be re-

ported missing in the last month.

Iranian newspapers reported Thursday that Mr. Mokhtari, 45, had

died of suffocation, and one of them

quoted a relative as saying that his

body bore bruises around the neck.

Thursday.

Mohammed Jafar Ponyandeh, an

target of the secular opposition.

In Iran Raise



A survivor giving the victory sign Friday on Thai TV. At least 43 survived.

Iran Says Its Missile Industry No Longer Needs Outside Help

TEHRAN — Hashemi Rafsanjani, a former Iranian president, said on Friday that the United States was no longer able to curb Iran's missile industry because Tehran had largely reached technological self-sufficiency.

Mr. Rafsanjani, who now heads a top state agency, also dismissed charges that Tehran sought to develop biological

'Missile production has truly become a local technology in Iran," he said. Referring to the United States at a weekly prayer gathering, he continued: 'Despite their efforts, it is out of their hands now, thank God, because we have reached the level we needed to get

As he spoke, a high-level U.S. team was in Russia, complaining about al-leged illicit transfers of Russian missile technology to Iran.

'Iran is today a proper missile prodneer which does not need any country. not China, not Russia and not others, the Iranian leader said in remarks carried by Tehran radio.

'We started from scratch, sometimes using parts or technology from outside.
"We have also used Western technology, including our scientists who have studied in America itself."

Iran said its navy tested Iranian-made ballistic and cruise missiles at the end of war games in the Gulf on Thursday.

In July, Iran tested the medium-range Shehab-3 missile, which it said had a range of 1,300 kilometers (812 miles).

peatedly expressed concern over Iran's missile capacity, urging Russia and China to stop any transfers of technology to the Islamic republic.

William J. Broad of The New York

The scientist, Mehdi Rezayat, was identified by The New York Times this week as a key figure in an Iranian purchasing network meant to speed the development of nuclear, chemical and

biological weapons.

But he said Thursday that his approaches were entirely peaceful and that he was only trying to acquire the talent and technology to make diagnostic kits

and other medicines. The article, he wrote, "astonished me very much," adding that his only goal

in medical fields." His comments were contained in a letter faxed Thursday to the television channel MSNBC, which translated and

The Times. Efforts to reach Mr. Rezayat on

Israel and the United States have re-

احتذامت الأصل

■ Iranian Scientist Issues Denial

Times reported earlier from New York: An Iranian scientist has denied that he

tried to recruit biologists who formerly worked on Moscow's germ-warfare program to develop similar weapons for Iran, as American officials and Russian scientists have reported.

for hepatitis and AIDS, and antibiotics

was to "fulfill the needs of his country

published them and provided a copy to

Thursday were unsuccessful.

BRIEFLY

Marshall Islands Lose China Ties

BELJING -- China broke diplomatic ties with the Marshall islands on Friday, three weeks after the South Pacific nation formally. recognized the rival government of

Taiwan.
The Chinese ambassador to the Marshall Islands, Zhao Lianyi. lodged a complaint with the Mar-shall Islands government and announced that diplomatic relations were broken effective Friday, the

Xinhua press agency reported. The break was anticipated, but there was no indication why Beijing waited to make it official.

China insists that all countries with whom it has diplomatic relations must break ties with Taiwan. With the addition of the Marshall Islands, Taiwan's small pool of diplomatic allies stands at 27.

Gunfire at Kabul Ends in Stalemate

KABUL - The Taleban religious army and its opponents waged a fierce battle outside the Afghan capital Friday, awakening residents with the thud of artillery fire and the steady staccato of heavy machine

Mohammed Jan, a Taleban commander at the front line, said that the opposition began a heavy artillery. assault Thursday and intensified the attack at daybreak 12 miles (19 kilometers) north of Kabul.

The two sides exchanged gunfire for three hours but neither gainedground. There were no immediate reports of casualties among soldiers on either side, Mr. Jan said. (AP).

Indonesia to File Conspiracy Charge

JAKARTA - The Indonesian: police said Friday they would charge three opposition activists. with conspiracy over bloody clashes in November between anti-government protesters and troops in which. at least eight people died.

The three are alleged to have beenamong the signatories of a Nov. 12 petition calling on President B.J. Habibie to step down and rejecting a. special session of country's top leg-islative body, the People's Consultative Assembly.

A spokesman declined to give names but said at least one protester was a retired general. (Reuters)

Canadians Call On NATO To Rethink Nuclear Policy

By Steven Pearlstein

Washington Past Service TORONTO — The Canadian Pariament has taken another step toward confrontation with the United States over the inclusion of nuclear weapons in NATO arsenals.

After a two-year study and a divisive Sommittee of the House of Commons has released a report accusing the United States and other nuclear powers of clinging to a Cold War mentality in their defense doctrines, long after the Cold War has ended.

In its list of recommendations, the panel called on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to consider renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons. It also niged serious consideration of separating NATO's nuclear warheads from the missiles and bombs on which they are deployed, as a way of reducing the chance that they would ever be used.

The report, released Thursday, gives added political support to efforts by the foreign minister of Canada, Lloyd Axworthy, to prod, embarrass and cajole the United States and the other major powers. to reduce their nuclear arsenals. That effort already had been given impetus this past week by Germany at a NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels.

But the three nuclear powers in NATO — the United States, Britain and France — argue that nuclear weapons are an effective deterrent against ag-

gression. And in the Canadian government, Mr. Axworthy faces opposition from Defense Minister Art Eggleton and other cabinet members who are reinc-

tant to challenge allies on the issue. The committee report criticizes the United States for talking out of both sides of its mouth on the question of nuclear nonproliferation iternal debate, the Foreign Affairs countries such as India and Pakistan to

renounce nuclear weapons, while keeping them at the ready for its own use. It also declares that nuclear deterrence is an outdated and dangerous concept. And it cites evidence from a range of military planners that battle-

field, or tactical nuclear weapons no longer have any military use. William Graham, the chairman of the committee, said his aim was "not to start a huge dispute with the United but to encourage a review of a NATO nuclear doctrine that even many

military specialists consider outdated. U.S. officials note that the number of nuclear warheads in NATO's arsenal already has been reduced by 80 percent since 1991, with further reductions possible. But they warn that by pushing so publicly for the elimination of nuclear weapons, Canada, Germany and a num-ber of smaller NATO members are jeopardizing the alliance's unity at a crucial

dangerous rift within the alliance," a U.S. official said.

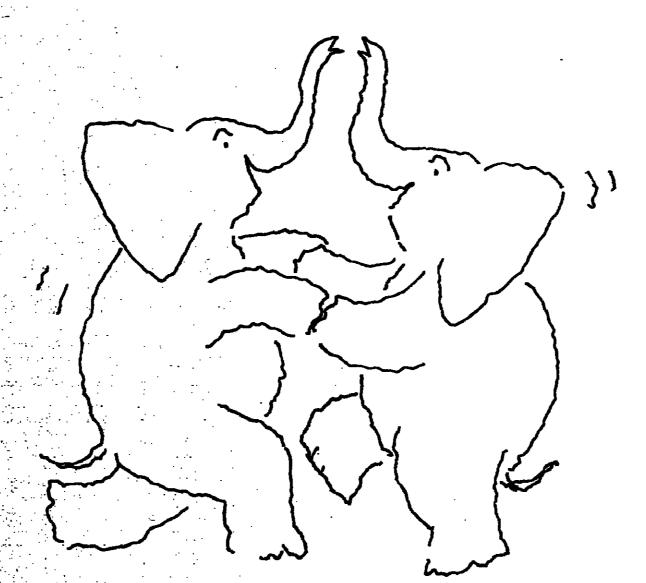
The two writers who had previonsly disappeared were both found dead in mysterious circumstances.

The body of Mohammed
Mokhtari, a dissident and poet who was reported missing last week, was identified Wednesday, just hours before Mr. Pouyandeh's disappear-

time in its 50-year history. 'Minister Axworthy is pursuing a course that could lead to a growing and

FIND OUT MORE ON DECEMBER 18, 1998.

WO STRONG PARTNERS WILL COME TOGETHER!



Clinton's Mideast Journey

Realistic Goals

President Bill Clinton's trip to the Middle East this weekend, originally intended to nudge along the Wye peace agreement, now looks certain to encounter turbulence. The Wye agreement is bedeviled by delays, mutual recriminations and new violence. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel is fighting for his govern-

Faced with these circumstances and his own impeachment problems, Mr. Clinton must be realistic about what he can hope to achieve. His main goal should be to make sure that the deal he brokered in Maryland survives with minimal damage and delay. To succeed, he will need help from Mr. Netanyahu and from Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader. The two men must handle the visit with restraint and not seek to exploit it for political advantage.

The centerpiece of the visit is Mr. Clinton's trip to Gaza City on Monday to witness a vote by the Palestinian National Council to nullify language in the Palestinian Charter that calls for Israel's destruction. Israel is now saying that only a roll-call vote at that meeting would be acceptable. The demand is unreasonable, as Mr. Clinton,

A Steadying Influence

Benjamin Netanyahu has two immediate problems. But President Bill Clinton, heading off on a visit to Israel and Palestinian-run Gaza and the West Bank, has a role in working out only one of them.

Mr. Netanyahu's first problem is strictly his own: to stay in power. By agreeing at Wye to give up further parts of what the Israeli "religious" consider inalienable territory, he jeopardized his connection to the Israeli right. By then hesitating in the implementation of Wye, he drew the fury of the Israeli left. The contradictions of his policy are now being worked out in the cauldron of Israeli politics. It is possible that Mr. Netanyahu's coalition will not survive and that the Israeli people will make a new leadership choice. Scrupulous neutrality is indicated for Mr. Clinton.

No such neutrality, however, is indicated for Mr. Clinton in respect to Mr. Netanyahu's second problem: to

anthority to the vote.

Although Mr. Netanyahu suggested that Mr. Clinton go to Gaza for the charter vote, the Israeli government is now concerned that the visit will be seen as somehow endorsing or even certifying Palestinian statehood.

The fear is misplaced. The Oslo peace agreements specify that the question of Palestinian statehood is to be negotiated between the two sides at a later date, and Washington has no interest in bypassing that understanding. Mr. Clinton's helicopter flight to the new Gaza airport and attendance at the Palestinian Council meeting will not confer sovereignty on the Pales-tinian authorities, and neither Mr. Arafat nor Mr. Netanyahu should suggest

Because of the threat that his government may fall in a no-confidence vote later this month, Mr. Netanyahu may be tempted to rally right-wing support by undercutting the Wye agreement. A strong majority of is-raelis want a negotiated peace with the

Mr. Netanyahu should rebuild his political strength by aligning himself with that centrist majority.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

move the focus of his negotiations with the Palestinians from the Oslo and Wye agreements on Palestinian selfrule to broader talks on a permanent settlement. No small crisis of confidence has developed in Israel over the implementation of Wye. Mr. Clinton's task is to summon both Mideast parties to the obligations they took on there. That means holding Palestinians to their pledges of security for Israel - and of revision of the Palestinian charter — and holding the Israelis to their pledges of extra West Bank land for the Palestinians.

The violence is nasty and politically troublesome. Its immediate trigger was Israel's disappointment of the Palestinians' - unwarranted - expectations for the release of "political" prisoners. Israel released the car thieves and held on to the murderers. Especially at this first-ever visit of an American president to Palestinian territory, Mr. Clinton must apply a steadying influence on the side of order and law.

--THE WASHINGTON POST.

No Squishy Outcome

main action in the impeachment crisis not cast a "rubber stamp" vote to seemed to be taking place outside the impeach in the belief that the Senate House Judiciary Committee. Given would acquit the president. That would entative Henry Hyde's determination to pass an impeachment resplution on a party-line vote, this is a positive development. Public opinion. constitutional wisdom and the national interest all demand agreement between Congress and President Bill Clinton on a censure that would sternly condemn

the president, but leave him in office. The behind-the-scenes bargaining seems to be moving at the pace of a bug swimming across a saucer of molasses. But at least there is movement, because the White House is scared now. Whatever they say in public, no smart lawyer would advise Mr. Clinton to go on trial in the Senate on the initial count of grand jury perjury. So Thursday the White House announced that Mr. Clinton would, in effect, welcome a censure deal. It is directly lobbying moderate House Republicans and using intermediaries to contact other influential Republicans. The time has come, in fact, for party figures like former Senator Bob Dole to follow the example of Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Republican of New York, in urging a negotiated settlement.

Still, censure advocates should avoid any deal that lets the White House get away with the semantic game insisted upon by Mr. Clinton's lawyers. They want to substitute the word "misled" for "lied." Average citizens who receive merciful treatment at the bar of justice do not get to dress up their failures with fancy language, and neither should Mr. Clinton. The president knowingly lied under oath, and that needs to be written into

the history of his administration. The Judiciary Committee on Thursday heard two presentations of widely divergent quality. The committee's Republican counsel, David Schippers, used almost three hours for a needlessly sarcastic reading of the public record. The Democratic counsel, Abbe Lowell, made a detailed and impres-

For the first time in some days, the sive argument that the House should sacrifice a "double protection in Founders intended" to write into the

> Taken together, these events suggest a penetration of the veil of unreality that has surrounded the impeachment ceedings. If Mr. Clinton and opinion leaders in both parties shake off their lethargy, the likely passage of an impeachment resolution by the Judiciary Committee need not determine the outcome in the full House. When he returns from Israel next week Mr. Clinton may have the opportunity to seal a censure bargain with an honest and full confession to the American people.

But Democrats and moderate Republicans should not let this serial evader use a squishy word for his lies. For while the constitution requires prolonging Mr. Clinton in office, Congress does not have to hedge its demands for contrition that is full, candid and, at long last, not misleading.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment Nigeria's Best Chance

They were only local elections, but so far so good: a healthy turnout, little violence and fairly efficient counting. Nigeria's voters have begun a series of polls that are to culminate in the election of a civilian president in February and a final handover by the soldiers in May. Meant to, and must. This may be Nigeria's last chance. If yet another young army officer decides to declare himself the country's latest savior before May, even long-suffering Nigerians might give up on it as a nation-state. After 15 years of military misrule, regional and ethnic loyalties are stronger than ever. In contrast, a Nigeria with a democratically elected government and a re-formed economy could lift itself and the whole of West Africa.

The Economist (London).

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Mon Visit U.S. Should Be Forthright in Support of a Palestinian State

NEW YORK — For friends of Israel, there is something very sad, and also profoundly revealing of the state of the peace process, about the circumstances of President Bill Clinton's visit to Israel and to the Pal-

estinian Authority.

The visit should have been a glorious occasion, marking not only Israel's 50th anniversary but also an extraordinary relationship between the world's only remaining superpower and the diminutive but vigorous Jewish democratic state. It is hard to find an analogue anywhere in history to the deep friendship that has existed be-

tween these two countries. But instead of marking a celebration of a unique relationship between these two nations, or serving as an occasion for Israel to express its gratitude to the American people for the constancy of their support, this visit will take place in a contentious and ugly atmosphere that dramatizes, above all, the deterioration in the relationship between these two governments. It is a deterioration that would have been incon-ceivable before Prime Minister Beniamin Netanyahn came to power.

Who could have imagined that a time would come when the prime minister of Israel would say about a pending visit of an American president, "if he wants to come, he'll come, and if not, he won't come," or that Israeli cabinet ministers and the speaker of the Knesset would tell the president that he is not welcome?

By Henry Siegman

What these developments underline are the "achievements" of Mr. Netanyahn's two and a half years in office: The man who promised greater security for Israel inflicted far more damage to Israel's security than any of its enemies could possibly have.

The two most critical elements of Israel's security are its relationship with the United States and the normalization of Israel's relations with its neighbors in the region. Yitzak Rabin's greatest achievement was precisely in these two areas. He came to realize that giving Palestinians a sense that their most fundamental human and national aspirations are respected by israel would contribute far more to Israel's long-term security than the grabbing of additional hilltops.

The Oslo agreement reached with Yasser Arafat and the respectful manner in which Mr. Rabin related to him and to the Palestinian people as partners in the peace process, no less than his personal friendship with the United States and its president, constituted historic contributions to Israel's longrange security. They brought Israel to the threshold of normalization with its Arab neighbors, a process that simultaneously enhanced U.S. credibility and helped protect vital U.S. national interests in the Arab world.

Mr. Netanyahu destroyed the good

will that Mr. Rabin had so painfully established, not only by his opposition to the Oslo accords but by his contempt for

and humiliation of Palestinians and their struggle for national dignity and independence. At the same time, he has managed to bring Israel's relationship with the United States to a historic low, not to speak of the damage he has in-

flicted on U.S. interests in the region. The painful irony in this situation from an Israeli point of view is that the major justification for the establishment of a Palestinian state has always. been that Israel's support for such a state would create Palestinian and Arab good will toward Israel, and thereby contribute to its security. Mr. Netanyahu's opposition will not prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state. In the 21st century, no people can be permanently disenfranchised and under occupation.

The unique legacy of the man who was elected on the promise that he would bring Israel security and peace will be that Palestinian statehood, when it occurs, will be shorn of any benefit to Israel

The peace process can still be saved, but only if Mr. Clinton uses the occasion of his visit to deliver two clear messages to Mr. Netanyahu and his government. The first is that Mr. Netanyahu's self-righteous condemna-tions of Palestinians' resort to violence do not give the prime minister the mor-al high ground. The territorial frag-

mentation of the West Bank through Israeli settlements, housing projects and major highways which are mining Palestinian territories into isolated Bantustans is not the result of negotiations, nor is it being achieved by nonviolent means. It is being done by violent means, under the cover of israeli machine guns and tanks.

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The second message Mr. Chitton should deliver to Mr. Neumyalin is than no matter how much he and his supporters delay the inevitable, Palestinians; will, in the end, achieve national independence, and it is right and fair that they do so. The only thing Mr. Net anyahu's opposition will achieve is distributed that the content of the c this statehood will come about not as a result of an Israeli sense of fairness but in the face of Israel's bitter resistance

Americans believe that their country's support for Israel, which has been generous and unfailing, does not re-quire that it betray the Palestinians. Mr. Clinton should inform Mr. Netanyaha that if the landing of Air Force One in Gaza is seen as an angury of U.S. support for Palestinian statehood, he is reading the matter correctly. The soon er American support for Palestinian; statehood is clearly understood by Is-rael's political leadership, the sooner will peace come to the region.

The writer, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, contributed this personal comment to the international Herald Tribune.

Not Another Inch: Israel Still Awaits the Promised Reciprocity

By Charles Krauthammer

W ASHINGTON — Twice now in the past two years Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel has given land to the Palestinians - and gotten the Israeli political right to accept the principle of territorial compromise. Twice he has counted on administration promises that the United States, as broker, would ensure Palestinian compliance with the commitments they made in exchange for land. Twice he has been betrayed.

in January 1997, Mr. Netanyahu gave up most of Hebron, the second holiest city in Judaism. Knowing that Yasser Arafat has never kept a promise made to adversaries whether Israeli, Lebanese, Jordanian or Palestinian ---Mr. Netanyahu asked the United States to pledge itself to

ing the Palestinians to end anti-

Israeli and anti-Semitic incitement, to change the Palestinian jecting Israel's existence, to reduce the size of the Palestinian police, and so forth. Every single one of these promises remained a dead let-

ter. How do we know? Because

they reappear - as Palestinian commitments - in the Wve accord negotiated 21 months later. This time, said the State Department, we really mean it: Israel will get these reciprocal gestures - in return for another 13 percent of the land. The United States proposed a three-stage deal so that Israel

would not be stiffed again. Rather than withdrawing in one chunk — as it did in The administration did, in the Hebron, then finding that the

"Note for the Record" requir- Palestinians, land in hand, simply ignored their obliga-tions — Israel would give up 2 percent first, then wait for Palestinian compliance; then another 5 percent, with a pause

for Palestinian compliance;

then a final 6 percent. What happened? Israel made the first withdrawal and opened the Gaza airport. Within hours, rioting, stone-throwing and anti-Israel violence erupted on the West Bank because of discontent with Israeli prisoner releases. In a blatant violation of the Wye (and Hebron) pledge toprevent incitement" and prohibit "all forms of incitement," the speaker of the Palestinian gislature declared that "the adership that threw stones" before the peace process -

On cue, the very next day, the mob appeared, bused in from Bir Zeit University to must be Palestinian reciprocity. Ramallah, attacked an Israeli car, dragged out an Israeli soldier and beat him savagely with stones and bricks. Meanwhile, Mr. Arafat has

been going around since the Wye agreement telling his people and everybody else that he will declare independence in May. Very nice, except that Palestinian statehood is, under Oslo, something that is not to be done unilaterally but only after negotiations with Israel. At the same time, Mr. Arafat is demanding that Israel go ahead with its 13 percent withdrawal. How can Israel possibly be expected to withdraw

fat unashamedly says he is going to tear up in five months?

travels the world, periodically

By uprooting a Marxist re-me, General Pinochet became

the bête noire of the interna-

alighting at the White House.

from land in the name of an Oslo agreement that Mr. Ara-

must be Palestinian reciprocity for each stage of Israeli with drawal. Inciting violence and declaring that Oslo dies in five months are pretty obvious vi-Again and again, Mr. Arafat stands up in the White House

and says, as he did at the sign²! ing of Wye, "We will never go, back to violence and confromtation." Within hours, he finds himself dissatisfied with Israel over this or that - and out comes the mob.

Mr. Netanyahn has finally said: No more. He is through with the charade, If Mr. Arafat can, at will, turn the violence switch on and off, and turn the Oslo process itself on and off (next May: off), it is madness for Israel to give another inch.

gress has given no more thought

to those agreements' legal force

and practical application than

Congress gives to proclama-tions of National Pickle Week.

Those agreements are, necessarily, of a high degree of

generality. What offenses, in

what quantities, trigger a

former public official's vulner

ability to international proceed-

ings? And why just former of-

ficials? General Mannel

Noriega was ruling Papasas when U.S. forces arrested him

ment has decided that the in-

terests of national reconcili-

Chile's democratic govern

Pinochet's Hour of Fear Puts Torturers on Notice

"is prepared once again to

throw stones in order to free the

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON — The Spanish judge, who on Wednesday made progress in persuading Britain to extradite General Augusto Pinochet, former dictator of Chile, for trial concerning human rights violations, is practicing what is called "justice without bor-ders." However, borders are akin to fences, and good fences make good neighbors. If what is called international law - it is international, but is it law? -ignores fences, will nations be

more neighborly? Prosecuting General Pinochet might expand the "rule of law"; it certainly would in-volve ideological willfulness tarted up in the trappings of law. General Pinochet was a nasty ruler who mandated torture, hostage-taking and murder --probably including murder on

Arianna, and their children.

writer friend, David Brock. When the story broke over

the weekend, journalists cor-

rectly pointed out that Mr. Huff-

ington, unlike such past clos-

eted gay Republicans from Roy

Cohn to the Jesse Helms adviser

Arthur Finkelstein, didn't abet

gay-bashing. Though his cam-paign was cloaked in hypocrit-

ical imagery and fluctoric that included Mr. Huffington's disparagement of "the gay life-style" (which he first led him-

self, he now says, in the 1970s),

more a toruned victim of Re-

publican homophobia than a

al Roberts and his party's high

priest, Pat Robertson, he tried to

will himself into heterosexual-

ity through prayer — with pre-dictably futile results.

perpetrator of it. Inspired by Or-

Embassy Row in Washington. deserve moral amnesty because But he was, on balance, good for Chile, which emerged from his despotism as a prosperous democracy, and might not yet have emerged from the tyranny Salvador Allende planned. General Pinochet's 1973 mil-

itary coup stopped Mr. Allende's government from screwing down the lid of a Communist dictatorship. Yes, Mr. Allende's government was elected — with approximately the percentage of the vote (36.3) that Hitler got in 1932 (37.3). But General Pinochet's coup did not destroy democracy. Rather, it thwarted a government coup against democracy by Mr. Allende's Cuban-supported militia.

he was less awful than the Allende alternative, or because the human toll of General Pinochet's rule did not rank him near the top of the list of the world's oppressors at that time, or because

Chile now prospers. Conservatives' selective indignation about tyranny --General Pinochet's tyranny largely escapes their censure is not more contemptible than that of those who warmly welcomed to Harvard a villain of the Tiananmen Square massacre. Liberals who consider Fidel Castro more avancular than criminal also forget that Yasser Arafat's agents murdered two U.S. diplomats in Sudan. Mr. Arafat, whose hands are blood-But General Pinochet does not ier than General Pinochet's,

tional left: His coup refuted the faith that history is regulated by a ratchet that moves leftward. Furthermore, Prime Minister Tony Blair's vanilla government gives scant satisfaction to his Labour Party's unreconstructed left. Extraditing General Pinochet would palliate the aging left's strongest remaining passion, which is for nostalgic vengeance. So "progressive" opinion and party calculations pressure Britain's government to forget how helpful General Pinochet was during Britain's war against Argentine aggres-

sion in the Falklands. Some who insist that General Pinochet must be prosecuted commit a non sequitur, saying: If the meaning of international law is clear and enforcement is imperative when tanks cross an international border for the purpose of annihilating a sovereign nation (Kuwait, 1990), then international law is always clear and prudently enforceable.

However, law is only law if it gives due notice of what is required or proscribed, and if it treats like cases alike. International human rights law does

True, Congress has ratified various agreements that purport to limit what regimes can inflict

ation take precedence over vengeance against General Pi-Although Britain has decided to allow the extradition process,

which may be protracted, to grind on, the ideal, or least unsatisfactory outcome would be for a way to be found for General Pinochet, 83, to be returned to Chile. Some conservatives reasona-

bly argue that prosecuting Gen-eral Pinochet might deter offer dictators from surrendering power. However, those conservanives are conceding a determine effect. Such prosecutions high stay toxturers' hands. If the peril in which General Pinochet finds himself prevents electrodes from being attached to the genitals of political prisoners, General Pinochet's hour of fear has served.

upon their people. But Con-Washington Post Writers Group:

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO 1898: Women Thieves

were arrested in a single week in a Sixth-avenue store, on the charge of shoplifting. According to French specialists, in the majority of cases where women are caught stealing, the discrepancy between their means for supplying luxuries and their desize to rival other women in displays of toilet was the incontive to the first theft

1923: Pinkerton Dies

LOS ANGELES - William Aljan Pinkerton has worked his last miracle in detecting the author of baffling crimes. The world-famous detective died here to-day [Dec 11]. Mr. Pinkerton was in his assumptioning the conin his seventy-eighth year. His quest of craminals has taken him through all the devious mazes of fifty years' strife with the un-

derworld. It was often s NEW YORK — An epidemic of shoplifting has broken out. here. Four clergymen's wives show yourself, he gets you."

1948: Palestine Plan

PARIS - The United Nations General Assembly approved Saturday [Dec 11] the much amended Anglo-American resolution setting up a three nation conciliation commission to aid the Arabs and Israel in nego-tiating peace in Palestine. Amendments to the resolution removed from it virtually all mention of the original partition plan approved by the Asserably over one year ago. Israeli so was weighted against them, but an Israeli spokesman declared that "The government of Israel looks forward to an early texmination of hospilities in Pales-

tine and the conclusion of alast

ing and equitable peace.

Herald Eribune

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A Closet Candidate, in Several Ways By Frank Rich

NEW YORK — In an early campaign spot in his 1994 run for the U.S. Senate, Michael also makes it clear that Mr. Huff-Huffington quoted from Wilington's sexual orientation is not the real news in his story, as far as the quality of our public life is concerned. What is most disturbing are the damning non-sexual revelations that may now liam Bennett's "Book of Virtues" on the virtues of family. Soon to come were bacobe, sun-dappled spots highlighting Mr. Huffington's togetherness get lost in the prurient buzz. By his own account, Mr. Huffington with his celebrity wife, emerges as a man with no polit-But not long after he lost narrowly to the Democratic incumical convictions and no achievebent, Dianne Feinstein, the Huffments. Yet his vast personal fortune - once booked up to the ingtons separated and then divorced. And last weekend, on omnipotent medium of TV adhis own volition, Mr. Huffington vertising, especially negative addecided to make his intimate life vertising -- was able to give him public by declaring to Esquire a fake identity and smear his nagazine that he is homosexnal, opponent until he came within 2 in a detailed confessional to a percent of representing the

argest state in the U.S. Senate.

Only a last-minute illegal-nanny scandal defeated him. Mr. Huffington spent \$30 million - by far a record-breaking amount for a Senate race. Two years earlier he had broken the national spending record in a House race too - successfully deploying negative ads to unseat a well-regarded, nine-term Republican congressman, Bob Lagomarsino, in the primary. So loudly did Mr. Huffingson's money talk that he overcame the he often did support gay civil rights. The Esquire piece makes clear that Mr. Huffington was seemingly insurmountable handicap of being a complete unknown who had moved to Califormia only six months cartier. In his race against Ms. Fein-

stein, he was derided as an empty suit by many commentators. But even the candidate's tough press critics may not have been probing enough. In Esquire, we learn that Mr. Huff-But a full reading of the article ington only reluctantly pursued

his prepolitical career in his father's oil business, and that he sleepwalked through his Re-agan administration appointment in the Pentagon ("He re-members virtually nothing of his year there'') and his accomplishment-free term as a congressman ("He found the minutiae of crafting laws boring"). The only reason he ran for the Senate is that he "would do anything" not to face another

tedious term in the House. As the real corruption of our time is the spiraling effect of unchecked special-interest money, not sex, on governance, so the real lesson of the Huffington case is the corrosive effect of an unlimited private forume, not sex, on a political culture where paid ads can drown out lessmoneyed opposition.

A complete nonentity rudderless he is not sure today if he is a Democrat or a Republican - pulled the wool over the eyes of millions of voters with the media blanket unlimited cash now buys. Any empty suit so easily merchandised on TV to ali-too-credulous voters can be merely a front for unseen ideologues pulling the strings.
Luckily for the country, both

Mr. Huffington and the more overtly dangerous Ross Perot were derailed before they bought their way to the top. But the as yet little examined Steve Forbes is already spending whatever it takes of his bottorpless fortune to win the presidency in 2000, and as the Huffington saga proves, only a fool would dismiss him as a joke.

שוני ועש

احكذامن الأعل

Violence Mars Clinton's Visit To Peace Talks In Jerusalem

JERUSALEM - On the eve of President Bill Clinton's arrival, Israeli troops opened line Priday on hundreds of Palestinian stone throwers, killing two and injuring 32 during a protest against Is-rael's refusal to release prisoners, hospital officials said:

The violence, coupled with Israel's tough, positions concerning the peace agreement Mr. Climon is coming to pro-mote, stepped up concern about his visit.

Earlier Friday, Israel rejected a U.S. compromise on the release of Pales tinian prisoners and also affirmed that it Bank miess the top Palestinian decision-making body holds a vote to an and clauses of the Palestine Liberation Organization's charter calling for Israel's destruction.

The violence Friday empted when about 400 Palestinians threw stones at Israeli soldiers outside a West Bank town and the soldiers fired tear gas, rubber-coated steel pellets and live ammunition to disperse the crowd, Palestinian witnesses said.

Two 18-year-old Palestinians, Mohammed Suleiman and Kamal Adwan, were killed by live bullets in the head. Two were wounded by live fire and others were hurt by rubber bullets, according to officials at a Palestinian clinic.

The protesters had gathered after noon prayers to press for the release of Palestinian prisoners, a key point of con-jution between Israel and the Pales mian Authority.

Israel has pledged to release 750 prisoners in three stages by the end of January. The Palestinians have said Israel broke a promise to release prisoners held for anti-Israeli activities. Israel said it never made such a pledge and accused the Palestiman Authority of incitement over the prisoner issue.

The Palestinian negotiator Sacb Erekat said the United States offered a ever to Palestinian-ruled territory by an compromise, a trilateral committee to go American president. over the list of prisoners one by one and determine who will be released.

But the Israeli cabinet secretary, Danny Naveh, said Friday that such a proposal was unacceptable. "Israel has not been offered such a compromise, and there will not be such a compromise," he said.

The other point of contention is the meeting Monday of the Palestine National Council in Gaza City, Mr. Clinton is to address the council, which, under the Wye River peace agreement, is to Maryland, the idea was that the president reaffirm earlier decisions by lesser bod would attend a gathering of hundreds of ies to revoke PLO charter clauses.

The Palestinians have said they would

vote. "They have to vote if the PNC," said a government spokesman; otherwise Israel will not turn over additional West terms. "The whole issue of the charter is Bank territory to the Palestinians because a non-ssue," he said dismissively. "In n "transfer of territory is irreversible."



A Palestinian youth throwing a gas canister at Israeli soldiers during a clash Friday that resulted in two deaths.

GAZA: Son Sees Same Goal by 2 Pathways

Continued from Page 1

its revolutionary foes in Nicaragua, Iran and elsewhere. The name he gave his son, Jihad, means holy struggle in Ar-

"Almost every enemy of the U.S. for the last 20 years, it was my dad who supported them," said Jihad Wazir, who 35. "But now things are different." The son, who spent a decade in the United States, chose another path.

Against his father's prediction, he was granted a visa by the United States and took engineering degrees from Marquette University in Wisconsin and the Milwaukee School of Engineering. Although he maintained close con- goal remains much the same.

tacts with the Arab world — he volunteered in a Red Cross hospital in Baghdad during the Gulf War — Mr. Wazir regards America as a potential ally for the Palestinians, and a crucial one. As he directs the installation of phone lines, lights and cameras at the Gaza convention center, he has not lost sight of what matters most to the Palestimans about the Clinton trip, the first

"There is a growing recognition in the U.S. administration of the need for a Palestinian state," he said. "They would not say that, but the whole concept of a right to self-determination

is an American concept. "That's why Clinton's coming

ray of hope for us," he said. The Israelis see the visit to Gaza differently. When they assented to it during U.S. brokered negotiations this fall in senior Palestinian officials who would finally renounce the parts of the PLO has disturbed many Israelis deeply.

Mr. Wazir sees the trip in broader order to have peace in the Middle East you have to address the needs of the

Palestinian people."
Mr. Wazir left the United States in 1994 and came to Gaza, to which Mr. Arafat had returned to build his Palestinian Authority after the start of the Oslo peace process.

His family constitutes what passes here for Palestinian royalty. His mother, Intisar, is Palestinian minister for social affairs and lives in one of the most opulent villas in Gaza. Mr. Wazir drives a Mercedes and is managing director of the World Trade Center Palestine, a commercial consulting group. His wife, Thuraya, is a corporate lawyer.

Mr. Wazir may not have adopted his father's means, he says carefully, but the "My dad was a pragmatist and self-

less in his devotion to the cause," Mr. Wazir said. "He wasn't into slogans." The Clinton visit to Gaza is critical, he said, "as a recognition of Palestinian aspirations. My dad was for that.

"Things have changed," he said. "There is a new era that requires new arrangements, new agendas.



Jihad Wazir in Gaza on Friday preparing for Mr. Clinton's visit. ments on access

U.S. Bars Raids on Iraq Before UN Tests Finish

WASHINGTON — The United States said Friday that it would take no military action against Iraq before it had the results from a series of United Nations initiatives to test Iraqi compliance with inspections for weapons of mass

They are in the middle of that right now," President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, Samuel Berger, said during a briefing on Mr. Clinton's trip to the Middle East this weekend.

'We want to see this process play its

course." he added.
Iraq has refused a demand by the UN Special Commission, known as Unscom, for documents and has blocked the inspection of an office of the ruling Ba'ath Party even though it agreed to unfettered access when it was confronted with U.S. military strikes last

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who was also at the briefing, rejected a suggestion that Washington, by not using the U.S. military force still in the region, was giving President Saddam Hussein a green light to continue interfering with the commission's

NATO headquarters in Brussels and to France this week, she assured American allies of U.S. resolve to act without warning if Iraq continued to defy UN demands.

She added that she told them that if there is not compliance "there are no warnings and that diplomacy has come

"But at the moment, we are in the middle of the process," she continued, 'and therefore, I think we need to wait to see what our reaction is," depending on "if there is compliance or noncompli-

Mr. Berger was asked whether the United States was backing away from a and conspiracy to take hostages. pledge to strike Iraq if it broke the agree-

"I think we've said all along that the best option here would be an Unscom

that can do its job," he replied. "If Unscom can't do its job, then we're left to take our own action. And that continues to be our position.

UN weapons inspectors testing Iraqi compliance continued to work Friday. Some of the teams went out, not all," said a Unscom spokesman, Car-

She did not say if the reduced operations were in deference to Iraqi requests that inspectors respect the Muslim Sabbath.

PINOCHET: Day of Drama

Continued from Page 1

Parkinson said he had not heard the translation properly, the general was asked to identify himself again, and he gave a perfect repetition with the same set-jaw delivery.

In legal terms, the session was a simple bail hearing, but in all other terms "Absolutely not," she said. it was a day of high drama. Hundreds of She added that, during a visit to supporters and protesters chanted slope oneit was a day of high drama. Hundreds of gans and beat drums as the police con-voy bearing the man who once wielded absolute authority in his country sped into the Belmarsh courthouse next to a maximum security prison in a bleak lowland area known as Plurustead Marsh. A beige coat was pressed against the back window of his van to block any view of

With General Pinochet glowering from his position in front of the dock while a translator whispered in his ear, Mr. Parkinson crisply read out the charges against him - attempted murder, conspiracy to murder, torture, conspiracy to torture, hostage-taking

At strategic points in the crowded room were armed police in bulky buletproof nunics.

In response to a question from one of his lawyers, General Pinochet's bail conditions were amended to permit him to take exercise in the garden of the luxury rented home in the exclusive Wentworth Estate in suburban Surrey where he is living under police guard 'It would be inhumane to stop the seaator walking in the garden as and when necessary, Mr. Parkinson said.

Then a new date, Jan. 18, was set for the next hearing, a procedural session that will not require the presence of

Spain wants General Pinochet extradited to face charges of mass murder, torture and terrorism in connection with disappeared during the 17 years he ruled

when a committee of the Law Lords of the House of Lords takes up a request by the Pinochet attorneys to reconsider their judgment last month that their client does not enjoy sovereign immunity from arrest in England.

It was that Nov. 25 decision, a surprise reversal of a High Court verdict in his favor a month earlier, that set the Pinochet case on its present lengthy course that could stretch on for more

The Law Lords constitute the highest court in England, and there has only been one request in the past 175 years for an appeal of one its decisions. The Tuesday hearing is to determine whether the request will be accepted.

The petition is based on allegations of bias against Lord Hoffmann, who de-livered the key vote in the 3-to-2 ruling Nov. 25 against General Pinochet. The Law Lords decided then that crimes of the kind General Pinochet is charged with are not protected by sovereign immunity because they cannot be considered functional acts of a head of

General Pinochet's lawvers have raised concern about Lord Hoffman. who, it has emerged, is an unpaid director of a charity for Amnesty International and whose wife has worked as a volunteer for the organization for more than 20 years. The question of possible conflict of interest arises because a lawyer for the human rights group, in what was considered a rare privilege, was permitted to argue the case against General Pinochet during the six days of hearings before the Lords in Novem-

Jack Straw, the British home secretary, explicitly dismissed the complaint in deciding Wednesday that the extradition petition was valid and should pro-

ceed to the English courts.

Geoffrey Bindman, the lawyer for
Amnesty International, called it "diversion and nonsense" and noted that the law firm representing General Pinochet, Kingsley Napley, had itself contributed \$1,700 this year to a new headquarters building for the charity with which Lord and Lady Hoffmann are associated.

DMZ: U.S. and North Korean Troops Mingled, Ex-Diplomat Says

Continued from Page 1

so much tension," Mr. Quinones said. Indeed, the issue is potentially embarrassing for the UN command amid sensitive talks between U.S. and North Korean diplomats regarding a suspected underground nuclear site in North Ko-

William Perry, the former U.S. defense secretary who is now coordinating U.S. policy toward North Korea, said in a visit this week to Seoul, Beijing and revoke the clauses only by acclamation, charter that call for the destruction of Tokyo that North Korea's failure to open not by a vote as Israel has demanded. Israel. That Mr. Arafat regards the event the site to inspection jeopardized a 1994 Israeli officials said, Mowever, that as a veiled form of American recognition agreement under which the North promprogram in return for construction of two reactors for energy purposes

1994 to 1997 to monitor compliance with the agreement. He said that on one

of those visits, in July 1996, a North North Koreans about how much fun it building at Panmunjom where U.S. and North Korean soldiers held their

The American side knew we were there," said Mr. Quinones, then in the North to negotiate repatriation of re-mains of U.S. soldiers killed in the Korean War. "We had to call across to the American side so they could let us

Mr. Quinones said that in the building next to the one where U.S. and North Korean military officers have been 'color TV, air-conditioning, nice furexctors for energy purposes.

niture and an unlimited supply of beer
Mr. Quinones visited the North from and liquor" supplied by the Ameri-

Korean colonel escorted him to the was," and subsequently confirmed all this by talking to an American officer at Panmunjom.

The South Korean Defense Ministry said Friday that it had asked General John Tilelli Jr., commander in chief of the UN command, including South Korean as well as U.S. forces, for its records of the killing of the lieutenant as General Pinochet. well as of any possible contacts between South and North Korean soldiers.

A spokesman for the UN command said it was "cooperating fully" with the the more than 3,000 people who died or South Koreans but refused to comment meeting since the armistice ending the Korean War was signed in 1953, he saw U.S. troops may have had with the North A n Koreans.

"We know a lot," the spokesman said, "but we can't say." South Korean officials said they knew nothing about Mr. Quinones said he "heard from the the U.S.-North Korean contacts.

CHINESE: Malaysian Haven for Outcasts "After so many years of trying to Continued from Page 1:

the indigenous populations and have High School in Penang, which took in maintained cross-border business ties.

400 students after the violence in May. maintained cross-border business ties. "7 It was no surprise that many of the indonesian Chinese escaped to places - like Penang and Singapore when vi-olence broke out in May.

Those who came to Penang were mostly from Medan, Indonesia's fourth largest city located almost directly reacross the Strait of Malacca. The two ecities share centuries-old trading, culc tural and family links.

But despite these historic links, many of the Indonesian Chinese have had a - difficult time fitting in. In addition, those who are not studying here have been Indonesia. granted only "visit passes" by the im-migration authorities, often valid for just

... Ingrid, for instance, who watches over s her four children in Penning, must leave - the country every three weeks to renew her pisitor's visa.

1 Wet, many of the Indonesian Chinese

living here say they would move perman-ently to Malaysia if they Many Indonesian were given the chance. Chinese would Across sown from

move permanently L Mewah Court, three Indonesian Chinese colto Malaysia, if lege students looked given the chance. puzzled when asked if they would like to stay permanentiy Malaysia.

"Of course!" they said in unison.

In May, one of the students, Roswaly Anwar, 18, spent a night crouching on the Anwar, 18, spent a night croncing on me second floor of her house in Indonesia as lot," says Khor Hoay Ion, who worked second floor of her house in Indonesia as lot," says Khor Hoay Ion, who worked 2006 and prepare the way for an expansion that could see a community of 21 members in the next few years, and even and burned two of her neighbor's cars. -mobs threw rocks through her windows and burned two of her neighbor's cars.

My mother said, The faster you go, the better," " she recounted, adding with

a trace of bitterness: "For us Chinese, there is no place." in a strange way, the recent violence in Indonesia, however, has helped revive the historic ties between Medan and · Penang. Over the past three decades, the : Chinese communities of Malaysia and Indonesia had drifted spart following

- concerted efforts by the Indonesian govemment to integrate the Chinese minorn ity into mainstream society. in Many young Indonesian Chinese never learned Hokkien, the prevalent dialect very rich. in both Medan and Penang, or any other mese dialect. Some, like Miss Koswaty, speaks a mixture of Hokkien and Malay, but cannot read or write

Today, the Indonesian Chinese study ing in Penang are taught Mandarin and Hokkien, learn undicional songs and celebrate Chinese festivals with their Penang ethnic cousins.

Malaysia and Indonesia have main-have been rejected," said Lim Seng tained largely separate identities from Chai, an administrator at Han Chiang "So they search for their roots.

"And if they don't know Mandarin they can't study their history," he added. Language has been a major barrier for the older Indonesian students, many of whom only speak Malay and English and who cannot pick up Chinese dialects as quickly as the younger children. Richard Falvey, an English teacher at

the British Council in Penang, said he once instructed some of his teenage Indonesian students to write an essay about the differences between Malaysia and

"They were writing a lot about the Chinese Malaysian reaction to them," Mr. Falvey said. "As soon as they opened their mouth and spoke bahasa the Malay dialect.

In many ways, however, Penang's Chinese community was quick to embrace

the Indonesian Chinese after the violence in May. Schools hired dozens of teachers to accommodate the new stuand local churches welcomed the

new parishioners. The local government, too, played an active role in helping the Indonesian Chinese.

The state government is doing a

are doing it quietly."

Nonetheless, permanent residence seems all but out of the question for the that unless its \$13 billion net contri-Indonesian Chinese. Internal politics is bution is reduced and unless EU finances not the only reason, according to Mr. Khoo of the University of Malaya.

We cannot afford to offend Indonesia in any way," he said, "If we openly welcome all the indonesian Chinese, Indonesia is bound to take offense."

That leaves the Indonesian Chinese who want to emigrate options like Singapore and Australia, which have traditionally welcomed them, especially the

"As far as Singapore is concerned, talent from any part of Southeast Asia is welcomed, subject, of course, to their own population policy." said Toh Kin Woon, a state executive councillor in Penang, who deals with the issue of Indonesian Chinese students.

"As long as there's talent and as long as there's capital coming in, I think they open their doors very wide."



rather than a Chinese dialect they were looked down on," he said, referring to and President Jacques Chirac of France, right, after he was made Honorary Citizen of Europe Friday in Vienna.

SUMMIT: EU Leaders Agree to Set Employment Guidelines

Continued from Page 1

financing of the EU beyond laying out widely divergent positions. It seemed likely that the leaders would

leave it to Germany to attempt to unravel the problem, which would be discussed again at a special summit meeting in March. Germany will assume the rotating presidency of the EU on Jan. 1.

At issue is a proposal called Agenda 2000 to finance the EU from 2000 to members in the next few years, and even-tually as many as 26. Germany, which bears the brunt of financing the EU, says are radically overhauled, enlargement

may be delayed or even aborted.

Jacques Santer, the president of the European Commission, said that failure to agree on the package of internal reforms would result in "uncertainty and a long-term crisis." It would undermine the "elan of the euro," he warned, and send a negative message to countries

waiting to join the EU. Countries expressed willingness to cooperate on the budget while offering no concessions on positions that would make agreement attainable. France, for example, appeared to have adopted a position of "what is yours is negotiable, but keep your hands off what is mine."

included co-financing of the Common and state premier 11 years later.

half the budget, the spokesman replied against the that this was an acquired right, an "ac-resources. quis," and was therefore not open to negotiation.

Germany has proposed that national governments should pay for part of the farm funds, or co-finance them, out of national budgets. France insists that the agricultural

policy must continue to be paid for collectively The French, however, do not regard

Agricultural Policy, which accounts for acquired fight. Mr. Chirac said it went against the community spirit of sharing But a British spokesman said the re-

bate was "not negotiable." On another front, an attempt, led by

Britain and France, to reopen the question of ending duty-free sales in Europe next year appeared destined for failure. Several countries, including Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Denmark, said they saw no reason for reviewing the unanimous 1991 decision Britain's budget rebate of 3.2 billion to end tax-free sales for travelers within ecus (\$3.75 billion) this year as such an

Max Streibl, Bavarian Politician, Dies at 66

MUNICH - Max Streibl, 66, who led from 1988 to 1993, died Friday after suffering a heart attack.

"Streibl was a passionate Bavarian, a convinced federalist and a champion of a regions-based Europe," said the parliamentary president, Johann Boehm. Bavaria's Parliament observed several minutes of silence Friday in his honor. Mr. Streibl's political career began in 1962 when he was elected to the Bayarian State Parliament for the ruling Christian Mr. Chirac called for everything to be Social Union. Mr. Streibl was appointed secretary-general of the party in 1967. He put on the table, for it to be negotiable, a spokesman said. But when asked if this became state finance minister in 1977

He resigned in 1993 under the cloud of the National Institute of Environmental entrepreneur of millions of Deutsche research. marks for a fighter plane project.

Martin Rodbell, Nobel Scientist

New York Times Service Martin Rodbell, 73, a biochemist who shared the 1994 Nobel Prize in Medicine discovery of those proteins and how they and Physiology for shedding light on the work led to the knowledge that some mysteries of life's basic processes, died Monday of cardiovascular disease in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

land. He formally retired in 1994 from ecule called guanosine triphosphate.

the "Amigo affair," with allegations sur- Health Sciences in North Carolina's Rethe southern German state of Bavaria rounding government loans to an aviation search Triangle Park, but continued his

Mr. Rodbell and Alfred Gilman 'a pharmacologist, won the Nobel Prize for their work on a component of the communications system that regulates cellular activity, known as G-proteins. The types of cancer are caused by mutated

and hyperactive G-proteins. In 1970, Mr. Rodbell found that the Mr. Rodbell's career spanned more signal transmission, or transduction, by than four decades with the National In- which the body's cells get their direcstitutes of Health in Bethesda, Mary-tions requires a tiny intracellular molBy Michael Kimmelman New York Times Service

AS VEGAS — This being Las Vegas, the art gallery at Stephen Wynn's new Bellagio Hotel was still open at 11 o clock, so I wandered in Every day, I'm told, 1,800 people, the maximum number allowed, pay \$10 to see what is in the gallery's two small rooms (dark walls, spotlights on the pictures). Half the visitors buy the \$4 audio guides narrated by Wynn.

The crowds had thinned at night, which made it easier to see the Brancusi and Giacometti sculptures and a big Franz Kline painting called "August Day." I mention those three works, among the couple of dozen things on view, because the next morning, when I returned to take another look, poof! They were gone. They'd been sold and shipped out in the middle of the night.

Hey, this is Vegas. What do you expect? Novelty rules. Did you see the Bellagio's advertising blitz, with its pictures of lovers on balconies and spurting fountains? Of course, much of the hoopla about the hotel was generated not by advertisers but by art writers who, in praising the art that Wynn had

By Holland Cotter

New York Times Service

expecting to settle in for a spell, what would you take? Some-

thing pretty? Something protective?

Something sentimental: a souvenir, maybe, of where you'd been?

The ruling elite of ancient Egypt, who envisioned the hereafter as a high-polish version of the here and

now, kept all of these requirements in

mind when they chose their traveling

gear. And some sense of their taste in

such matters can be gleaned from a gem of a show, "Gifts of the Nile:

Ancient Egyptian Faience," at the Rhode Island School of Design Mu-

Faience was a medium with a par-

ticular allure for the Egyptians, and they used it to create some of their

most memorable art. The 200 or so

objects here - sculptures, amulets,

jewelry and dishes borrowed from

museum collections in the United

States and Europe — are gorgeous and

Faience, a nonclay ceramic, began

seum here through Jan. 3.

weighty with information.

ROVIDENCE, Rhode Island

bags for a trip to the afterlife,

~ If you were packing your

place as a quasi-museum.

Las Vegas, we were led to understand, was no longer a city of simulated histories, stuck forever in the ephemeral present. Now it had real paintings and sculptures, which linked it to cultures older and bigger than itself.

Except, as it has turned out, it didn't necessarily have these particular paintings and sculptures, because like everything else in gambling's unofficial capital, the art was for sale: Wynn legally became an art dealer to get a tax break on the collection, a situation that requires him to keep the art in the gallery on the market.

I thumbed through the collection cata-logue, a remarkably good document put together by his curator, Libby Lumpkin, with essays by such writers as Dave Hickey and Peter Schjeldahi and Richard Schiff. I calculated that half a dozen of the works in the catalogue had already been sold: besides the works by Brancusi, Giacometti and Kline, a Johns, an Oldenburg and a Lichtenstein are gone. A couple of Warhols are poised to go; they've been removed from the gallery.

If I sound critical, I am not. What Wynn is doing doesn't bother me. There's something refreshing about the

as a paste made from two materials

emblematic of Egyptian life: sand from

the parched, devouring desert, and wa-

ter, associated with the nurturing Nile.

A coloring agent was added, usually powdered copper. Objects were shaped

by hand or in molds; kilns were heated,

and the stage was set for a magic act.

Going into the kiln, faience was doughy and dull gray, but it emerged transformed: rock-hard and coated with

a succulent glaze, often aquamarine,

though the chromatic possibilities were

wide. The Egyptians called the results

tjehnet, which, the show's catalogue

explains, means huminescent, like the

sun and stars. This seemingly self-generated brilliance became emblematic of

rebirth, which may explain why the

Egyptians valued faience as highly as

they did and why many spectacular

for much of the work in the exhibition,

organized by Florence Dunn Fried-

man, curator of ancient art at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Faience was often used for royal

portraits, and one of the show's high-

lights, on loan from the Metropolitan

Museum of Art, is the likeness of King

Spectacular is not too strong a word

examples are found in their tombs.

little like poker chips, if what he enjoys is the art of the deal, he is no different from many other collectors, just more public about his activities.

Give him credit. He has found a way to sell his hotel by promoting his art and to sell his art by promoting his hotel, the buzz about one helping to stimulate the buzz about the other.

Even the money the gallery rakes in from tickets and audio guides (around \$25,000 a day) seems to me proof of Wynn's marketing savvy, not because the money helps the hotel's bottom line (it goes to charity, Wynn says) but be-cause, in this city, charging admission makes more people want to look at the art. Where everything is measured in money, nothing worthwhile is free.
Hence, the gallery's appeal is paradoxically enhanced by its fee.
I mention all this because I had the

sense, in looking at Wynn's collection and in watching other people look at it, that something rather curious was taking place. It has to do with wonderment. The art here has acquired a life that seems to match its new, unorthodox environment. Las Vegas exists for the pursuit of pleasure. People who have

Souvenirs of Life to Ease a Journey to the Next The sculpture is no larger than a doorstop or a bookend, but the leonine body and youthful, smiling head feel

> Other objects linked to royalty abound, including doll-size faience wigs made for statues of kings or queens. And because of its vivifying reputation, faience was closely identified with women and fertility. The show includes several cuit statues of the grotesque god Bes, protector of infants and new mothers, as well as images, possibly talismanic, of women as passive erotic subjects.

gently monumental.

Among objects created specifically for funerary use one finds a pectoral on which the goddess Isis leans back against her outstretched wings like Jean Harlow on a Deco sofa. In one cult image, the god Thoth has a male model's build but a bird's head; in another, he is a plump hermaphrodite wearing jackel-headed carpet slippers. The privileged classes of ancient

Egyptians may have had no more hard proof than anyone else, but they were geniuses at inventing an afterlife, and "Gifts of the Nile" captures its essence with a wish list cargo of treas-Museum of Art, is the likeness of King ures suitable for sailing off into a Amenhotep III in the form of a sphinx. faience-blue beyond.

bought, helped to sell the idea of the place as a quasi-museum.

fact that his money is, so to speak, on the table. If Wynn treats great works of art a ering a new pleasure in Cezanne, which can't be a bad thing. After I stopped into the gallery at night. I went to see the hotel's other big attraction, the Cirque du Soleil's "O," as in "eau." It's like most Cirque du Soleil soleil soleil soleil sous — the same acrobatics, basically — except that much of it takes place in a year and that much of it takes place in a vast pool of water, which miraculously comes and goes on-stage.

Imention it because "O" is not unlike the hotel's art gallery, in that its gimmick involves something foreign to Las Vegas. Las Vegas is a desert, and just as you don't expect to find great art here, you don't imagine that a lake can be conjured up, then suddenly made to disappear.

FUNNY thing happens as a result of this cognitive dissonance: Neither the art nor the water seems altogether real at first. They are initially absorbed into the simulationist culture of Las Vegas — they seem unbelievable.

Hickey, the art critic, who lives here, kingly describes the situation as post-hyper-real real." Spectacle being the ultimate form of reality here, real art becomes a kind of phenomenon akin, say, to the world's biggest gold nugget

at Wynn's Gold Nugget casino.

Authenticity as a thing in itself becomes an attraction. Visitors to the Bellagio are enticed by the idea of their proximity to a genuine Monet. I heard a man in the gallery ask whether the art was real. In one of the hotel's restanrants, which has a number of Picassos on its walls, diners ask the staff the same question.

Hence, the aura of the true object is enhanced by contrast with its opposite. This is one of the odd lessons here. Another lesson: Good art is astonishingly elastic. It survives almost anything and adapts to whatever circumstances you put it in, opening itself up to new meanings and allegories. Hickey mentioned to me the way a Modigliani por-



A scene from the Cirque du Soleil's production "O" at the Bellagio.

trait in the collection looked when, at one point, it was hung over a baccarat table in the hotel's casino. The picture's suave, Mediterranean sensibility suddenly became apparent in a way that would not necessarily occur in a museum.

Not all paintings are at home in mu-seums, after all. Most of them weren't painted with museums in mind. Museums are neutral and neutralizing spaces, which is why it is a lot more memorable to come upon a good 1970s De Kooning behind the registration deak of a Las Vegas hotel than in the Museum of Modern Art.

Lately the Pop pictures sold by Wynn (who is himself a kind of pop figure and therefore perhaps too close to pop to see fully its merits) have been replaced by a Rembrandt and an excellent Rubens, both on approval, meaning he is thinking about buying them.
Having taken the measure of his audi-

ence and the art market, he's clearly reconsidering the slant of the collection, selling off post-1950s art to orient what is on view more to the tastes of the

novice public that the hotel attracts. To Wynn's credit, he doesn't seem to want to compromise the quality of what's on view in the process. At least not so far.

T HAS been said that Las Vegas is the most democratic of cities because slot machines don't care what race you are or where you went to school: Everyone faces the same odds. In a way, Wynn seems to regard his gallery of multimillion-dollar paintings as a populist enterprise. I would add that it is also a symbol not of a new, culturally mature Las Vegas but of the old, wild, unpretentions Las Vegas, where everything is fantastical and nothing stays the same.

Wynn says that only a great deal of money would cause him to part with his favorite works in the collection (a Van Gogh, a Cezanne, a few Picassos). a statement meant to signal that his art is not entirely up for grabs. We'll see. I suppose this is about as much of a guarantee of stability as you can expect

BOOKS

MAKING THE **WISEGUYS WEEP**

The Jimmy Roselli Story By David Evanier. 260 pages. \$24. Farrar Straus Giroux.

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

HIS rather peculiar book is, if nothing else, a useful reminder that in the vast world of American popular culture a performer peed not be famous to be hugely, indeed wildly, on his singing voice, the successful limmy Roselli, "reach, passion, power and born as was Frank Sinatra in warmth" of which Evanier born as was Frank Sinatra in the dreary New Jersey city of Hoboken, has enjoyed none of the global celebrity that befell his late contemporary and rival, yet within the Italian American community of the Northeast United States be is every bit as well known, and as a result earns what most Americans would regard as a

staggering amount of money. Exactly why David Evanier chose to write a blography of Roselli is far from clear. As his title indicates, he spends a fair amount of time on Roselli's on-again, off-again

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connections to the Mafia, and at all levels of the Mafia, and he is interested as well in the various ways that Italian culture lives on in (and adapts to) the country among those who moved there and their descendants. But Roselli does not Carlo Gambino. A person fahave a particularly interesting story, and Evanier does not Roselli's career describes it make much from the raw material it offers.

Roselli is now in his early says, "make it one of the great experiences in American popular music." Specializing in sentimental Neapolitan songs and "'saloon songs' of the Gay Nineties" such as "My Gai Sal," "When I Lost You" and "My Melancholy Baby," Roselli performs pretty much when he feels like it and "commands a staggering nightly fee of up to \$100,000 a performance,"

earning "well over a million dollars a year." His audience is mostly, if not exclusively, Italian American. It represents the entire range of that community, women most particularly, whatever their age or income or status, they swoon over every sort swooned over Smatra in the years when he was, simply. The Voice close connections to the Roselli is particularly admired Maria, he "stopped playing close connections to the

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St. Louis Browns Hall-of-Famer

Source of carri

over the years has crooned the 1929 tearjerker "Little Pal" to Carmine (the Snake) Persico, Sam Giancana, Carmine Galante and miliar with this aspect of

"They'd sit there listening songs or songs about Mama, seventies, but advancing age about their parents and how ing. I'd go backstage afterward and Jimmy would say, You see those guys? I had 'em cryin' like babies.' He'd get the biggest kick out of that. He told me a hundred times." Yet if this has given Roselli

satisfaction, it has also given him trouble. By his own testimony, he has not always marched in lockstep with the mob. For him as for many others growing up in places like Hoboken, "the attraction of the wiseguys, the allure of easy money, was powerful. and over the years he often succumbed to it. But he is also a prickly, independent and more than slightly self-destructive guy who has a pen-Roselli just as women of chant for making enemies and going his own way. In the late 1960s, after years of fairly

footsie with it and declared Even though this declara-

tion is not quite so emphatic as one might like to believe, essentially Roselli has been his own man for three decades. There is some reason to believe that this has cost to him sing these Italian love him in fame and wealth, especially by contrast with Smatra, who knew how to seems to have had little effect they grew up, that fitted into stay on friendly terms with these guys lives Bent nose godfathers and wiseguys and guys, hig guys. They day to have characters but he seems there, a dozen of them, cry-to have no regrets about it. He has found his place in the world, has made a going concern of it, and that seems to be quite enough.

If there are any morals to be drawn from this tale, Evanier does not lead the reader toward them. That murderous Mafioso can also be softhearted sentimentalists is a commonplace, and not a very appealing one, and this acderstanding of it.

The same goes for the Italian American community, the closeness and rich emotional life of which have been well documented over the years." Roselli is a mildly interesting. example of how one person has made a successful and somewhat eccentric life for himself in that community. but that's about as far as the

The state of Persia. ne milde of Brocklyn.

Works like these may be worlds and centuries apart, but this fall they happily coexist in one of America's largest and most important museums: The Brooklyn Museum of Art.



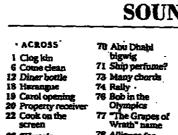
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SOUNDS OF THE PAST By Richard Silvestri



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Works of a Mystery Genius

By Hank Burchard Washington Post Service

TASHINGTON — Sandwiched between the blockbuster Van Gogh and Edo exhibitions at the National Gallery of Art is another the headliner at aimost any other major museum.

Love and War. A Manual for Life in the Late Middle.

Ages," which runs through Jan. 31, displays the mas-derwork of a mystery artist who has fascinated art lovers. and historians for more than 500 years.

The 15th-century illuminated German manuscript was drawn and painted by a genins known only as "The Housebook Master." It has been borrowed from the princes of Waldburg-Wolfegg, who have held it in the treasure room of their castle in Baden-Wuerttemberg in southern Germany since about 1650, when it was acquired by their ancestor, Imperial Hereditary Lord High Steward Maximilian Willibald (1604-1667).

The Housebook, probably prepared for the castellan, or overseer of a castle, is so delicate it is rarely shown even at home. It is all the more invaluable because of the insights it gives into the real, rather than the formalized or romanticized, life and times of the late Middle Ages.

its antiquity alone would make the Housebook precious, but it is art of such a high order as to be ageless. The exhibition's curator, Andrew Robison, salutes the master as the earliest major user of drypoint engraving, a technique by which an image is drawn directly on the printing plate with a sharp stylus. This allows great spontaneity, fluidity of line and subtlety of shading, although the delicate lines degrade after only a few impressions.

The Housebook Master stood head and shoulders above most of his contemporaries. He ranks with any artist of any time in his draftsmanship and his ability to suggest human character and relationships and to depict motion and emotion. His embrace was universal: Princes, priests, prostitutes, peasants and prisoners are rendered with equal attention and sensitivity. A captivating drawing of bahies at play is one of the earliest and rarest examples of children featured as the central subject of an artwork.

ND he is funny. His panorama of a house of ill repute is a boot, and only the brain-dead could fail to delight in the master's parodies of the puffery of princesses, the foibles of lovers and the cavorting of curs.

The darker side of medieval life is not neglected. Heads roll in battle, towns are sacked, maidens are ravished, pilgrims and merchants are waylaid and slain. A sub-stantial part of the book's five dozen pages are devoted to stannal part of the book's rive dozen pages are devoted to jousting, military drill, tactics, artillery and siege engines. Another section concerns engineering, mining and metallurgy, the source of the wealth of a new European industrial and commercial class that gave rise to reformation, revolution and the Renaissance. The exhibition includes 19 of the Housebook Master's works from Arnsterdam's Rijksmuseum — the unknown artist also is known as the Master of the Amsterdam Cabinet — and all four of the master's works held in American collections.

Scholars have debated for controls whether the House book is the work of more than one arise, because the signed or even initialed. The consensus is that all or nearly all of them came from the same hand, that the works were executed over a considerable period of time and that the variations are due to the artist's developing skill.

This exhibition is possible because the book was

unbound for conservation, study and the preparation of the full facsimile edition for which antiquarians have long clamored.

Russia Pays Tribute To Solzhenitsyn at 80

on Friday to their greatest living writer, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, on his 80th birthday and said he helped hasten the demise of the Soviet regime he devoted his life to fighting. President Boxis Yeltsin and

the State Duma, the lower house of Parliament, sent congratulations to the Nobel Prize winner, whose frank exposés of Communist repression and Gulag life forced him into a 20-year foreign ex-

ile that ended in 1994. The Kremlin announced that Felisin had awarded Kremin announced Solzhenitsyn the Order of the Apostic St. Andrew for "outstanding services to the Fatherland and for his great con-ried a front-page photograph tribution to world literature." of Solzhenitsyn, said he was Both liberal and Communist newspapers heaped praise on sian "teacher-prophets" Solzhenitsyn, who is as crit-stretching back to Leo Tolical of the new capitalist Russistoy in the 19th century, sia as of the old totalitarian "You have to throw your

Renars out any hesitation," said the SCOW—Rus—liberal business daily Komsians paid tribute mersant, adding that through on Friday to their his works he helped hasten the demise of the Soviet Un-

ion he hated. viet system would have fallen sooner or later, but it was Solzhenitsyn who drove the stake through its heart," the

From the other end of the spectrum the pro-Communist daily Sovietskaya Rossiya welcomed Solzbenitsyn's diarribes against post-Soviet liberal reforms and his defense of millions of ethnic Russians left stranded in "foreign" countries after the

Sevodnya newspaper, head right back to get a proper

Regis to whom the epithet fore us stands a giant," if en-

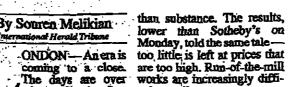
Prince of Wales signed S lithographs

"Of course the rotten So-

paper said, collapse of the Soviet Union.

which like most dailies carof Solzhenitsyn, said he was the last in a long line of Rus-"teacher-prophets"

system it replaced. head right back to get a proper
"He is the only writer in look at Solzhenitsyn — be-



when collecting im- cult to sell. pressionism and the art of the avant-garde schools that succeeded it until World War I make additions with specific helped define the aesthetic mances to an already extant perception of a whole society, hard core, hardly to acquire

painting gurn in the auction artist's ocuvre when he was world, has a point in insisting under the spell of his master, that major works are still held privately, the fact is that they parely turn up at auction anymore. A few established collectors may continue to feed composition highly structured. It made £771,500, a for new ones to come in high price for a pre-impres-would be pointless. There is sionist Monet. too little of consequence left Christie's was luckier still to start now.

Sotheby's prime-time sale on Monday night was skeletal vermilion poppies are strewn compared with any suction of across the oat field under a similar ambitions a quarter of sky filled with the delicate a century ago. It ran to 51 lots, salmon-pink light of an early of which 24 were bought in, summer morning. Painted in not because money for art is scance but simply because they were not good enough. The two pictures billed as the jewels in the crown said

all about the dearth of goods. Gauguin's guitar player il-instrated on the cover of the sale catalogue was a quasi- • tations pinned on the picture. academic portrait dressed up in the colors of soon-to-be Fauvism. Giddy optimism had inspired the auction house to give it a £2.2 million to £3.3 million (\$3.5 million to \$5.3 million) estimate. Unsold at £1.75 million, it was negotiated to an interested party in the room before the sale had even ended, amounting to one more auction house admission that "estimates"

mean nothing.

The other "star," also saddled with a £2.2 million to £3.3 million estimate is unlikely to be dispatched quite so promptly. "Le Dejeuner Sons la Tente" by Monet is an unfinished picture in which the idea of a couple which the idea of a couple age of any of the great Im-seated at a table set under a pressionists' occurre. tent is sketched in broad, ele-

luckier with its Tuesday evening session as it managed

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The Times Diary

wanted at £1.5 million.

Those looking for Monet this week were prepared to if only through major donations to museums.

Supplies are down to a trickle, and while Michel Strauss of Sotheby's, the great 19th- and 20th-century trates a rare early phase of the perception of a whole society, hard core, hardly to acquire standard paintings of medium to low quality. Sotheby's did well with a striking view of the jetty in Le Havre's harbor. Done around 1867, it illustrates a rare early phase of the Eugene Bondin. The palette is darker than his later Impressionist color scheme, the

> with its cover picture, "Champ d'Avoine." Bright summer morning. Painted in 1890, when Monet tried to revert to his first Impressionist style, this is a late rewrite the 1870s that every collector would like to own, hence the price, £2.12 million, which exceeded the highest expec-

came the turn of an exquisite view of a canal in Amsterdam with the spire of the Zuiderkerk at the far end. This kind of urban landscape is rare within Monet's ocuvre and its deeply poetic atmosphere equally imusual. Dating from 1874, the year of the an insipid landscape by Pissfirst Impressionist exhibition, the view comes as close as Money ever gets to a Romantic landscape. Immensely attractive, it gracefully ascended to £683,000.

There was not much otherwise that could be claimed to project the quintessential im-The only work that could be

mentary brush strokes. The argued to come anywhere came unstuck as the auctionpainter must have damped it near this definition was a eer called out "£120,000" in a corner of his studio where charming but small (27.5 by and brought down his ham-the executors of the estate 38 centimeters), monotype by mer. Another Pissarro with found it and had it stamped Degas heightened with pastel. with a signature. It fell un- The subject, a woman in her Bazincourt," likewise failed bath bending to clutch a towel Christie's appeared to be as she is about to step out, is a Poirier," a better picture of a favorite with Degas admirers. Although a heightened monoto dispose of 25 of 32 lots, but type (i.e., a print of which only it was a matter of style rather one impression is made) is not the list goes on.

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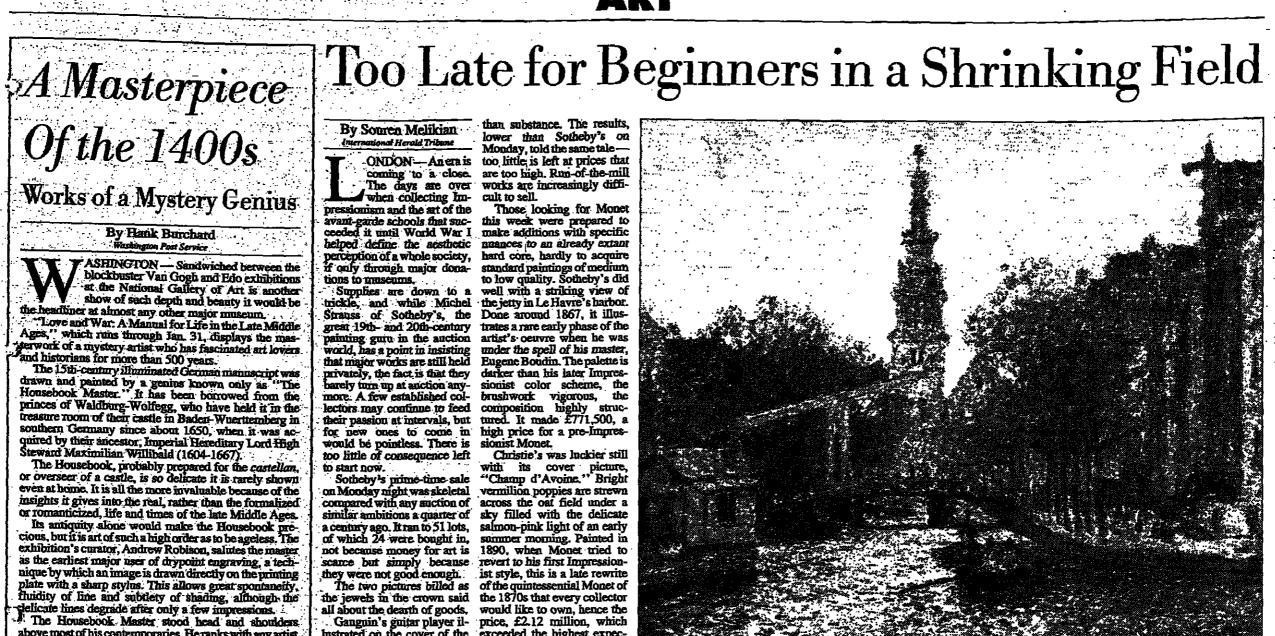
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A rare urban landscape by Monet, "Canal a Amsterdam," with the spire of the Zuiderkerk at the far end.

generous £1.04 million. By and large, the sales were cluttered with the leftovers of Impressionism accumulated during the de-

arro offered a typical example. Probably unfinished — the stamped initials prove that it was found in the artist's studio after his death - it was bought at Sotheby's in April 1969 for £200,000. This week, "Paysage au Valhermeil"

was estimated to be worth £180,000 to £250,000 -- considerably less in real money Even so this was too much. It stamped initials, "Ferme a at £220,000. Renoir's "Le pear tree in a wild patch of grass, interested no one. It was bought in at £120,000. And

continued in the lower strata. Monet's "Chemin dans les Vignes, Argentevil," painted bad, just dreary. Not one bid

came from the room as it in a row by Sisley's "Le Barrage de Saint-Mammes" and Renoir's portrait of a girl.

this week, all were achieved outside the Impressionist area. The most striking concerns John Lavery, the Irish artist from Belfast, a contemporary

it went up to £1_32 million.

Seen from the perspective taque, painted in 1906 with a realism invades commercial If there were brilliant scores freedom that betrays the im- advertising in Europe is no pact of Abstractionism on the coincidence. French artist. Sold at Sotheby's for £661,500, it was a brilliant acquisition.

of the Impressionists who as the new focus is increas-

rated as highly as a pastel When Christie's took over painted in a highly idiosyningly on the 20th century. It drawing, this one climbed to a on Tuesday night, the havoc cratic style. At Christie's was more evident than ever "The Bridge at Grez," one of this week as it helped send the his finest works, done in banal Paul Delvaux to a new France in 1883, doubled its record level at Christie's—on in 1872, was neither good nor previous record set last year, as Thursday night "La Ville Inquiete" of 1941 sold for £2.97 million, nearly triple the precrashed at £550,000, followed of modern art, the gem of the vious record. That this should week was Andre Derain's happen at the very moment Fauve view of trees at l'Es- when a diluted brand of Sur-

> A new society with a new aesthetic perception is taking shape. Those who gazed at Im-This is the more astonishing sthe new focus is increas-1970s would not recognize it.



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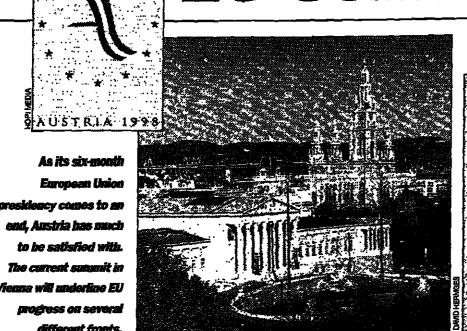
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HYPERREALIST STYLE PAINTER



TOWARD A GREATER UNION

The EU's political clout has recently moved into sharper focus.

s Austria nears the end of its term as president of the Tirol, environment to Styria, European Union, it is taking stock of its performance health to Burgenland, for-community of 373 million. Whereas the 12 "old" EU meeting) to Salzburg, arts members tend more to regard the six-month rotating presidency as a routine matter, Austria, as the first of the three Austria, transport to Vorarinewcomers, set out on July 1, 1998 to make its mark as an berg, industry to Carinthia and education to Lower Austria.

union," said the Austrian foreign minister, Wolfgang Schüs-



borne witness to this intention, even if EU reality has not always brought the desired immediate response.

serious problem of Continent-wide unemployment.

Words and deeds

These were the banners nailed to the flagpole of the EU presidency during the last six months of 1998. The nuts and bolts EU procedures, although for the most part unspectacular, were vast in scale. More than 40 ministerial conferences were held, mostly in Austria. Each of the nine federal provinces was in its turn able to play host to at least



mnovator that would really get things moving.

Vienna, for purely organizational reasons, was the site of the foremost task of the presidency is, as an honest the large-scale meetings, including finance (the "Ecofin" the large-scale meetings, including finance of FII and Vienna, for purely organizational reasons, was the site of broker, to attain compromises for the benefit of the whole meeting) and justice, as well as the conference of EU and Southern African Development Community foreign minsel, on taking up his duties as president of the EU council. His isters. All this was in addition to the chairmanship of well activities since then, both inside and outside Europe, have over 2,000 EU working-group meetings in Brussels, Luxembourg and elsewhere.

A highlight was the informal summit of EU heads of state or government held in late October in the Carinthian lakeside resort of Portschach. For several reasons, this was seen as a turning point in the Austrian presidency — possibly even in the history of EU development. It gave the first chance for the new German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder and the new Italian Prime Minister Massimo d'Alema to make their presence felt in the predominantly left and center-left circle of European administrations. (The departing German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, was accorded Honorary Citizenship of Europe as a way of showing appreciation for his efforts on

behalf of European unity.) Portschach was also memorable for the appearance of Yasser Arafat. The Palestinian leader, on his way back from the Wye Plantation conference in the United States following Klima, Aralat and Schüssel (left to right) at the Portschach meeting. for the massive moral and financial support given by the preement on the peace process with Israel, expressed thanks European Union.

A political voice

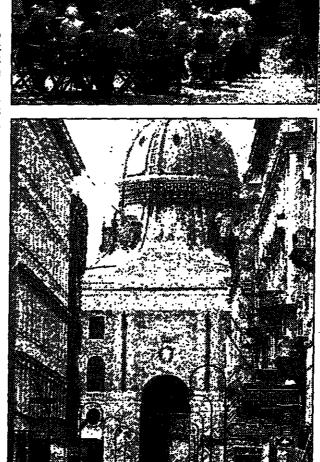
"We want to get Europe into fighting shape," said the It was partly this interlude that prompted Mr. Schüssel to Austrian federal chancellor, Viktor Klima, before battling his draw attention to a fundamental problem facing the EU as it way --- twice --- through European capitals to rally heads of is now constituted. With crises breaking out during the past state and government behind new plans for tackling the few months in Albania, Kosovo and Russia (not to mention Indonesia and Japan), the president of the European Council expressed the widely held opinion that while "the EU is a heavyweight in economic terms, it is only a lightweight politically." He added: "Europe should move from being a global payer to becoming a global player."

The solution he proposes is twofold. First, the so-called General Affairs Council, which meets every week to discuss EU issues, should be given greater discretionary powers to perform its tasks fully and effectively within a union that is one major event. Employment and social affairs went to becoming increasingly complex. Second, the long-mooted

appointment of a Mr. or Ms. Common Foreign and Secu-rity Policy should be transformed into reality so that Europe can make itself heard abroad with a convincing, coherent voice.

Speaking in Portschach, Mr. Schüssel said the key element of any comprehensive EU strategy must be the primacy of politics over eco-

In this he was seconded by Mr. Klima, who openly called for greater accountability and transparency --- while fully respecting its independence --from the European Central



Vienne, with its majestic architecture and easygoing ambience, has

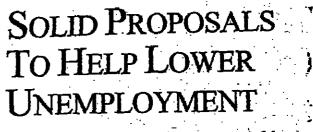
been the site of several large-scale EU meetings this year. ON EU ROLES Wolfgang Schüssel **AUSTRIAN POREIGN** MINESTER

'The foremost task of

the EU presidency is, as an honest broker, to attain compromises for the benefit of the whole Union."

"Europe should move from being a global payer to -becoming a global player."

"EU SUMMIT IN VIENNA" was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune. It was sponsored by the Austrian Federal Government and the City of Vienna. WRITER: David Hermges in Vienna. PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Bill Mahder.



Austria is putting forth to the EU some of the suggestions it has found effective at home.

claim to have made an impact on European Union policy during its three years the ECB and an outrie as a member, it is in em-

With the EU as a whole showing the alarming figure of 16 million to 17 million iobless, Austria (with 4.4 percent unemployed) is one anotherna, and Ms. Hostasci of the countries in Europe with the lowest jobless rates. OECD. This has been regarded as a matter of prime sociological importance by of action she has put forward successive governments in

The present federal chancellor. Viktor Klima, announced early on in the EU presidency that he aimed to and career, a fundament get acceptance at the end-ofterm European Council of an action plan to improve the employment situation Con-

The task was entrusted to the Austrian minister of labor, health and social affairs. Eleonora Hostasch, whose earlier career included leading positions in the trade union movement and in the chamber of labor.

Explaining the thinking behind the draft discussed ast week in Brussels at a "Jumbo Council" meeting including EU finance min-isters, Ms. Hostasch pointed out that employment was a subject that had to be viewed in a macroeconomic context domestic

Hostasch would like to build youth unemployment and up a permanent dialogue seeing that elderly workers among the European Coun- are not left jobless. cil, the European Parliament, and labor), the European reduce the costs (including Commission and the Euro- the hidden costs) of labor and nean Central Bank. This is a that increasing attention reasonable demand on the should be paid to creating face of it. The last-named jobs in new technology sec body, however, has so far re- tors, coupling this with the sponded only with silence. The ECB's terms of reference, as formulated in the Maastricht treaty, speak of responsibility for maintaining price stability and guarantee long-term discretion for further development. for the bank with respect to its decisions.

Mr. Klima, speaking at the ployment policy."

f there is one field in end of the informal EU which Austria can rightly Portschach summit in Ochber, called directly for more keep interest rates low as a way of encouraging economic growth. For bankers, political interference of this sort. says she would be happy if, for the time being, an occompared with 9.9 percent casional discussion platform for the EU, according to the could be established at which the ECB was represented.

in concrete terms, the plan for job creation puts great emphasis on equal opportunity for men and women, including creating better conditions for combining fami



the workforce, gained in Austria, at least 2 monetary supply and wage percent of the jobless should be offered training schemes. aimed particularly at cutting

Other points were that tak the social partners (industry systems must be modified to encouragement of lifelon learning.

Ms. Hostasch concluded "I would like to see the Vi enna EU Summit in mid December settle on the base this respect of a completely new quality of European em

AUSTRIA

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The American

Some New EU READING

Three English-language publications have appeared during the second half of 1998 that together provide a wellrounded picture of Austria and the part it has played in the presidency of the European Union.

"Austria and the European Union" is the title of the spe-

cial 25th anniversary issue of the quarterly journal Europäische Rundschau. In it, a distinguished cross-section of economists and politicians provide a sober, realistic and differentiated picture of Austria in the current decisive year of European inte-

While stating that it is difficult today, at the end of the century, to give an accurate and clear assessment of the strength of the Austrian economy, Helmut Kramer, director of the Austrian Institute for Economic Research, says there has been so much dynamism and change in the late 1980s, and '90s that it is hard to keep track of: 'The country presence on virtually all international markets is weak, with the exception of those in the immediate geographical neighborhood.... But even here the conceivable potential

has not been exhausted." "Austria and the European Union Presidency" (KERC) fills out the picture with a political perspective. Summarizing the contents of an international conference held in June 1988 at Chatham House, the Austrian ambassador in London, Eva Nowotny, gives a refreshingly clear outline of the main issues confronting her country during the presidency: "It is clear that with the packed schedule of EU business, much of it inherited from earlier presidencies, there has been little scope for Austria to initiate new policy.

lines of its own." She emphasizes, however, the importance attached by Austria to building bridges within the EU and to Central and Eastern Europe, although this is a delicate balancing act. "Austria, Europe, Time and the World" (Residenz Ver-

lag) adds a critical, intellectual insight into the current situation from more than 20 contemporary writers in Aus tria. With wit and worry, they fill in the gaps in the formal framework of treaties and protocol that has built up willy nilly around Austria's EU presidency.



ON UNEMPLOYMENT

VECTOR KLIMA,

ÁUSTRIAN FEDERAL CHANCELLOR:

"We want to get Europe into fighting shape."

A LOOK AT THE STATE OF THE EU AGENDA

Significant progress has been made on the issues of enlargement and formulation of policy.

the nature of things, however, this March 1999. twice-yearly summit - the last one was in Cardiff in June --- tends to be a report on a "work in progress." At the current summit, Austria as the

host country and Vienna in particular are being given an opportunity to highlight their contributions to EU devel-Alongside the heads of state and gov-

ernment from the 15 member countries. who are addressing the formal agenda, the current president of the European Commission, Jacques Santer, and the president of the European Parliament. José Maria Gil-Robles, have been invited to raise issues of concern.

Bracing the foundation

Even if no major breakthrough can be expected on this occasion, several matters of general interest will be handled and possibly brought a stage nearer completion.

First and foremost in the eyes of commission officials is the Agenda 2000 complex, on which the mediumterm future of the EU's structure and the choice is a difficult one in view of financing depends. A final decision can the underlying tension felt between New Year's Day 1999.

s the climax of every EU pres- be ruled out, but it is hoped that dis- leading EU members on foreign affairs idency, the European Council is cussions will be sufficiently advanced and security issues. expected to summarize the for an agreement on Agenda 2000 to be over a whole range of EU activities. In next presidency — Germany's — in

The overriding issue at the moment is that of EU enlargement. Virtually all the Bank and the Group of Seven. On this current members agree that this is de-matter, a formal if somewhat complisirable, even essential, but there is disagreement on when and how the ex- virate of representatives -- was reached pansion can be realized. Preliminary last week, but may well have to be talks with the first six candidate coun-adjusted before the Vienna Council aptries started a month ago, and it is proves it. thought that signals may be hoisted now for two or three others to sign up as applicants.

question of financing the Common Ag- rency. ricultural Policy, whose structural ramifications would be totally altered if the farmers of Eastern Europe were to be included as beneficiaries on the same terms as their present Western coun-

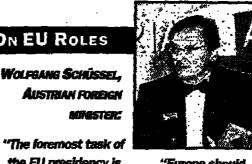
Possible, but generally considered unlikely, is the nomination by the European Council (largely at Austrian urging) of a person who would be entrusted with speaking for the EU on its Common Foreign and Security Policy. Several names have been put forward, but be fixed for the formal launching of the

Of more immediate concern, since achievements of six months' hard work reached by the deadline set during the monetary union will soon become reality, is the need to decide on EU representation in dealings with the International Monetary Fund, the World cated solution - involving a trium-

The Austrian presidency will, whatever happens, be remembered for its completion of the final stages leading Closely linked with this issue is the up to introduction of the single cur-

> Commenting on the occasion of the minting of the first Austrian euro coin, Rudolf Edlinger, the minister of finance, said: "If the present wise [monctary] policy is pursued, then Europe will become a bulwark of stability and employment. However, the euro is a currency unit, not a miracle drug - the road, not the destination."

> Whatever happens, Dec. 31, 1998 will be of historic importance because the exchange rate for the euro will then currency, first as an accounting unit, on



EU SUMMIT IN VIENNA

VIENNA ROLLS OUT THE RED CARPET (AND SNOWPLOWS)

Austria's capital has prepared for every kind of eventuality during the EU summit.

T ot since the Congress of Vienna in 1814-15 has this city on the Danube seen anything comparable. Unlike its historical traffic access for the official antecedent, however, the curant European Council meeting -- the culmination of the six-month Austrian presidency of the European Union -has no time for dancing or countly affairs. At this week's summit, heads of state or have been closed to pedesgovernment and finance trians and all normal traffic. ministers from the 15 EU

member states have a minda just two days.

Best foot forward. As far as is humanly posthe event has been assured authorities, representing the presidency, and City Hall, with each side eager to put its best foot forward.

There have been several smaller-scale dress rehears- tives, they will need photois this year for the current identification passes to enter ig occasion. In September, U finance ministers held heir regular meeting in Vianna, and the EU heads of (literally state gathered during Octo-ber in Portschach, Carinthia for an informal lakeside sum-

This more formal occasion, set in the heart of a posal ranjor city at the height of its Television and radio teams soliday shopping season, is also have their own on-site regarded as much more prob-studios.

present guises.

Contract and Section

THE CITY PAST AND PRESENT

Several recently published English-language publications

disclose unexpected facets of Vienna, in both its past and

point: "Next to globalization, Europeanization is the order of

Produced in conjunction with the Austrian EU presidency, it provides a topical presentation of each of the 15 Euro-

pean Union capitals, with one full day (and night) seen and

Alphabetically last on the list, Vienna, with its slowness

to accept change, emerges as a charming curiosity com-

pared with what the editor calls "the quick-change artists of

This engaging 150-page work concludes, however, with a

timely warning that "Western" Europe should not underestimate the ability to overcome crises and cope with chaos

analyzed entertainingly by a local journalist.

Eastern Europe" waiting on Austria's doorstep.

demonstrated by EU applicant countries.

"24 Hours in Europa" (Falter Verlag) takes as its starting

lematical from the security point of view.

The police are taking no chances. To ensure swift convoys of limousines with their flashing blee-light es-corts, the whole Hofburg Congress complex area and the adjoining Heldenplatz (Heroes Square), with its museums on the Ringstrasse,

Car parking will be prohibited, even for taxis and fiacres. One bus line has been canceled entirely for the duration. Some 50 shops in the immediate off-limits zone are temporarily maccessible to customers.

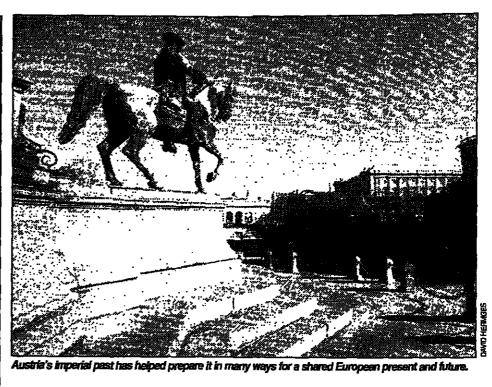
Although special federal security units (such as the sewer brigade and helicopter boggling workload to cover patrols) have been put on alert, there remains one threatening, incalculable

Should the heavens decide sible, the smooth running of to dump half a meter or more of snow on the city, the muthrough close cooperation nicipality's road-clearance between the Austrian federal department will be on call to show it can cope with the problem instantly.

As for the hordes of translators, interpreters, technicians and media representathe conference area. Once there, however, working conditions are truly of Hofburg "count-castle" standard, especially for the thousand or more print and photo journalists expected, who have every conceivable modern facility at their dis-

Television and radio teams





احكنامن الأحل

THE VIEW FROM CITY HALL: ISSUES OF EU ENLARGEMENT

Cooperation is key in taking on new EU members, says Vienna's mayor.

Positive factors

neighbors do well."

MICHAEL HÄUPL,

both labor and business, there are significant opportunities;

countries] will have a huge need to catch up - in in-

frastructure, production capital, consumption levels - and

they therefore have an enormous growth potential.... The

He adds: "Some 5 million Austrians -- or more than 60 percent of the total Austrian population -- live less than 100

kilometers from the CEE borders; two-thirds of Austria's

economic activities take place in areas close to these fron-

tiers.... The key message is: We will do well only if our

An immediate concern that cannot wait for a possible

Vienna has developed models for cooperation and is

encouraging the pursuit of this path at the European level.

Concrete evidence of this potential is provided by plans

already being implemented between Vienna and Prague,

Vienna and Budapest, Vienna and Ljubljana, and Vienna and

In each case, environmental technology, know-how and

pollution-control methods have been made available by

enna for integrated waste management, waste dispe

Mr. Häupl says: "In the near and mid-term future [the CEE

ichael Häupl, mayor and provincial governor of democratic development in order to prevent the emergence of Vienna, says: "Only political and economic in- a two-class society or, as it has come to be known, a "twotegration of the countries of Central and Eastern speed Europe." Europe into the structures of the European Union can create a climate of stability and social justice in Europe.

Obstacles to the realization of this goal are formidable but Apart from the possible risks involved in EU enlargement for manageable, he says. Enlargement, in his view, will require a new type of Marshall Plan.

Austria was, of course, one of the grateful beneficiaries of the postwar European Recovery Program, named after its initiator, U.S. Secretary of State George C. Marshall, half a century ago. Says Mr. Haupl: "There is no economic stability present EU is sure to benefit from that growth." without political stability, and vice versa.

The costs of achieving economic stability in the EU applicant countries are sufficiently daunting to suggest that only help from outside can enable the process to be completed within a reasonable time frame.

The idea is to give the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe the chance - just as Austria had in 1948 to establish themselves on a sound economic footing so that decision on enlargement is the need to improve environin due course, preferably in the not-too-distant future, they mental standards in the candidate countries. can become full and equal partners in Euroland.

For Vienna's leading municipal politician, this concern for Central and Eastern Europe is not merely a sentimental attachment, but a historical necessity.

Nine years after the collapse of the old system, even the most prosperous former Communist countries are still strugding to get their houses in order. Tentative political calm has

ON EU ENLARGEMENT

MAYOR AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR OF VIENNA:

"Only political and economic integration of the

countries of Central and Eastern Europe into the

climate of stability and social justice in Europe.

structures of the European Union can create a

"There is no economic stability without

political stability, and vice versa."

been, or is being, reestablished, but economic assurance is still only a distant vision.

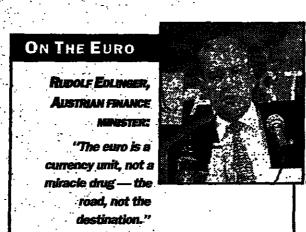
Vienna — long a peripheral West European city, now once again a pivotal Central European one — is particularly well-situated for comparison. Three of the current six first-round EU applicant countries (the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovenia) are immediate neighbors of Austria. A fourth, Slovakia, hopes to make it to the second round. In none of them is the standard of living (in terms of wages and purchasing power) better than one-third of Austria's.

The obvious corollary is that if any or all of them were

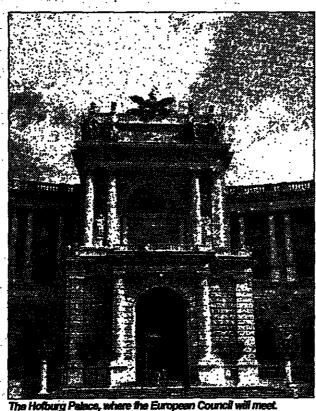
given early EU membership (and its associated freedom of landfills, the modernization of water supply systems and so movement), there would be a massive flow of labor to the on. "West," particularly Austria, endangering its employment situation

Mr. Haupl is convinced, on the other hand, that political

Mr. Hāupl has a word of warning, however, for the powers-that-be in Brussels. "Europe," he says, "will have to come up with adequate financing programs for retrofitting power plants, filter technologies and the like.... The lion's share of the EU budget now goes to finance the farming sector. If Europe is to keep its capability for economic action, a higher proportion of member states' contributions must in and economic integration is vital for the continuation of the future go toward financing infrastructure." •







Not so, say researchers. There may be an influx of daily commuters for the building trade and similar occupations, but the evidence shows there is little liking among the skilled workforce for job mobility.

A GROWING CENTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Several international organizations based on the protection of human rights have set up central offices or branches in Vienna.

implementation of human rights standards at the inter-

national and national levels. No less a person than United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has backed up this aim in a statement this year, calling for global partnership.

"Human rights are foreign to no culture and native to all nations," he said. "They are universal. One cannot pick and choose among human rights. Whether civil, cultural, economic, political or social, human rights are indivisible and interdependent. And as this century's bloody history has taught us, the absence of human rights is more than a demal of human dignity; it is also at the root of the poverty and political violence that plague our world."

Addressing an audience via satellite at the Vienna International Center, Mr. Annan added: "We draw hope from the fruitful cooperation between the United Nations and the nonstate actors which, taken together, form the embryo of a global civil society."

NGO cluster

Many of these nongovernmental organizations concerned with human rights have, over the years, established bases in the Austrian capital.

The International Helsinki Federation, for instance, promotes the principles of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act and of the successor documents published by the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe, which has its op- handed back automatically to the country from which they where to turn to in emergencies."

ustria sees, the 50th anniversary of the Universal erational headquarters in Vienna. The Austrian Helsinki entered Austria regardless of any dangers they might face in, A Declaration of Human Rights' coinciding with its EU Committee has just published a study called "Searching for presidency as a unique opportunity to evaluate the a Safe Harbor," which looks into the legal status and living conditions of foreigners in Austria as a result of the new asylum law that came into force earlier this year and of the situation resulting from implementation of the open-border Schengen Agreement.

Particular praise is reserved for UBAS, the independent federal asylum senate, an appeal body for refugees who say their cases are not being given due consideration.

Armesty International, by far the largest independent

human rights body in the world, casts a critical eye on the way countered.

The European Monitoring Center is dedicated to investigating how racist xenophobia and uti-Somilian can be combared

prisoners' rights are observed. Together with Caritas, the well as negative findings.

In particular, dissatisfaction has been expressed with the of promoting the ideas of civil society." "safe third state" ruling accorded to all of Austria's neigh-

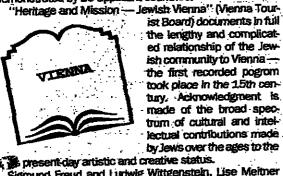
say, Slovakia or Hungary. For the past 16 years, the Austrian section of the Internationale Gesellschaft für Menschenrechte, originally a German association, has been largely concerned with human rights projects in the former Socialist countries of Eastern Europe, as well as with persecuted human rights activists.

Significantly, this year the EU has established its first permanent and completely new institution in Vienna. The European Monitoring Center is dedicated to investigating how racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism can be

The center's director, Beate Winkler, is determined to build up what she calls a "network of knowledge," to be known as RAXEN, which will be able to play a key role during the next millennium in effectively countering the threat to the democratic system posed by racism and xenophobia.

More specifically devoted to exposing and grappling with anti-Semitism is the Anti-Defamation League, which last year set up its Central European office in Vienna. Its director, Martha Halpert, says her office (with the backing of the Austrian branch of the international Roman Catholic charity parent organization in New York, founded in 1913) "atorganization, Al has recently analyzed the results of the new tentively monitors the activities of the new democracies in Austrian Asylum and Foreigners Law with some positive as Central Europe and contributes legal and educational assistance in the hope of facilitating the rights of minorities and

Furthermore, she says, "The small Jewish communities bors. This means, in effect, that asylum seekers can be beginning to re-emerge in Central Europe now have some-





ish community to Vienna the first recorded pogram

took place in the 15th century. Acknowledgment is made of the broad spectrum of cultural and intellectual contributions made by Jewis over the ages to the in present day artistic and creative status. Sigmund Freud and Ludwig Wittgenstein, Lise Meitner

and Max Perutz, Gustav Mahler and Amold Schönberg all had their roots in Vienna. Johann Strauss, the Waitz King. Thanks largely to the initiative of former Mayor Helmut

Zilk, the Jewish Museum of the City of Vienna was opened in

1993 and has been an outstanding success. "When Stones Start to Speak!" (PID, Vienna) is a profusely illustrated, 50-page booklet featuring the sensational archaeological excavations started in 1995 on Vienna's Judenplatz (Jews' Square), once the location of the city's

nidest medieval ghetto.

Well below its present surface level, the remains have been uncovered of a 13th-century synagogue destroyed

after persecution of the city's Jews and their mass suicide in 1420. The site, named after the fa-- Talmudic mous scholar Rabbi Gr-Sarua, is now undergoing restoration. It will soon be dedicated as a subterranean showroom and memorial.

The current mayor, Michael Häupi, has said that he wants the stone sambols on Judendeta to now start to speak for them-



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Deutsche Considers Japan Deal

German Bank Talks With Sakura on Tie-Up

TOKYO — Deutsche Bank AG and Makura Bank Ltd. said Friday they may illerge their Japanese securities businesses, making the biggest lender in Germany the latest foreign bank to take advantage of Japanese financial in-

Deutsche Bank, fresh from \$10.7 billion of acquisitions in the United States and Europe, said it was talking with. Sakura, the fourth-largest bank in Japan, about melding its 500-person securities sales force in Tokyo with the corporate muscle of Sakura Securities Co., which has 180 employees and links with the biggest companies in Japan.

Japanese banks have to do something to keep their corporate clients happy, but they're limited in their ability to offer products," said Koyo Ozeki, a credit analyst at Merrill Lynch & Co. in Tokyo. "Everyone's seeking these kinds of alliances with foreign insti-

A successful conclusion of the talks would mark the latest move by a U.S. or European financial company to build in Japan while its financial industry struggles with bad debts, economic recession and sliding stock prices. Its woes have forced many companies in the clubby Japanese financial world to look outside the country for expertise in

developing new products.

Scores of banks, brokers and insurers - foreign as well as domestic - have already entered into tentative alliances to weather heightened competition as Japanese financial markets deregulate. Moreover, regulations preventing bank-affiliated brokers, like Sakura Securities, from underwriting stock are scheduled to be scrapped before April 2000.

On Thursday, Nikko Securities Co., the third-biggest broker in Japan, approved setting up an investment bank with Citigroup's Salomon - Smith Barney Inc. Merrill Lynch earlier this year hired about 2,000 former Yamaichi Securities Co. employees and took over 196 branches of the defonct brokerage. In November, Dentsche Bank and Nippon Life Insurance Co. reached an agreement on asset management."

A tie-up with Deutsche Bank would help give Sakura know-how in advising its Japanese corporate clients on capital market transactions. Japanese companies increasingly are turning to the markets rather than banks for funding, but Japanese banks are not as well prepared as their Western rivals to help them. Sakura would give Demsche Bank

access to a broader clientele. Sakura is the main bank for the Mitsui Group, which includes Mitsni & Co., a trading company, the electronics maker Toshiba Corp., and the developer Mitsui Fudosan Co. The bank is also the main lender to Toyota Motor Corp.

Sakura Securities also has a close Parionship with Tokyo Electric Power o, one of the biggest private issuers of

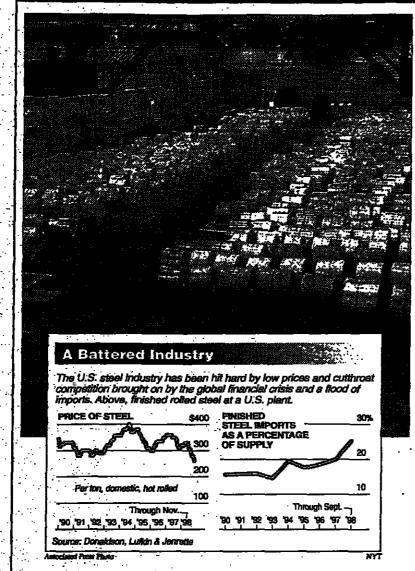
For Deutsche Bank, an agreement might also assist its alliance with Nippon Life. Under that alliance, Deutsche Bank will develop and sell European investment funds in Japan and Japanese funds in Europe and buy 10 percent of Nippon Life's mutual-fund unit in Ja-

On Nov. 30 Deutsche Bank announced the \$10.1 billion takeover of Bankers Trust Corp. of the United States, making it the world's biggest financial services company with about \$830 billion in assets. Two days later, it announced the \$590 million acquisition of Credit Lyonnais Belgium.

Sakura Securities Co. is ranked third among bank- affiliated securities units in Japan, with about 5 percent of the bond underwriting market.

While we are looking at strategic opportunities in the form of joint ventures or alliances in Japan, there is no agreement with Sakura," a Deutsche Bank spokesman said.

A Sakura spokesman said, "Nothing has been decided, and various options are being considered.



U.S. Set to Be Lenient On Russian Steel Imports

But American Firms and Unions Ask Relief

By Paul Blustein Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration, risking the ire of the nation's steel industry and its union, is planning to start negotiations with Russia on an agreement that would set a ceiling on Russian steel imports while allowing a substantial amount In dumping cases, the Commerce of Russian steel to continue entering Department can impose high duties the U.S. market

According to industry sources, congressional staff members and administration officials, Robert La Russa, the assistant secretary of commerce for import administration, is traveling to London next week to meet with Russian officials. They reportedly will discuss a proposal by Moscow to limit its steel shipments to the United States.

The Russians hope the offer will prompt Washington to suspend a "dumping" case by U.S. steelmakers aimed at drying up the flood of cheap Russian steel imports:

The move marks an effort by the administration to reconcile how to help Russia, one of the hardest-hit victims of the global financial crisis, while protecting U.S. firms and workers from the effects of the crisis.

U.S. steel firms and the United Steelworkers union are demanding relief from an influx of imports from crisis-stricken countries that has driven steel prices sharply downward in recent months and caused layoffs at several plants. The complaints from the politically powerful steelmakers about "unfair" foreign competition are putting the administration in a quandary, because moves to curb imports risk undermining hopes for re-covery in Asian, Latin American and East European nations that depend on exports to the vast U.S. market

The dilemma is especially acute in the case of Russia, a nuclear superpower, where steel exports are one of the few bright spots in a devastated economy that threatens to foment social unrest and political extremism. The administration is sensitive to criticism that its exhortations for freemarket reforms in Russia will ring hollow if Washington itself is suc- itive duties.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

cumbing to protectionist pressure. But the decision to meet with the Russians, which came after weeks of pleading by Moscow, is sure to draw fire from U.S. steelmakers, who are opposed to any negotiated settlement that would interfere in dumping cases they have filed against Russian, Jap-

anese and Brazilian imports. on products found to be sold below the price in the offending country's own market. And in cases involving "non-market" countries such as Russia, the rules for determining fair prices often lead to the imposition of prohibitively high duties.

Seeking to avert such an outcome Moscow is seeking a suspension agreement, which would effectively it the dumping case against it on bold in exchange for a "voluntary" promise to put a lid on exports and maintain a floor on prices.

"We think it's a bad deal. Bringing

the cases to a conclusion would have a much more significant impact on Russian shipments than a suspension deal," said a U.S. industry official. 'The administration is under pressure - let's call it foreign policy pressure - to deal with this problem in a very careful way, which from their perspective means 'Let the Russians sell steel into this market, maybe at a more reasonable level than they've been doing," the official

"So I suspect they'll come to us and say, we've got an agreement to limit hot-rolled sheet imports to a million tons a year or whatever. But that's a million more tons than we'd get if the cases went through." Russia exported an estimated 3 million tons

of hot-rolled sheet this year. It is common, however, for industries involved in dumping cases to initially oppose suspension agreements and later to embrace them once

the results are clear. Brazil and Japan have not asked to negotiate suspension agreements, in part because as market economies they may be less concerned than Russia about being slapped with prohib-

Coke Plans to Buy Cadbury Brands But Warns of Earnings Weakness

ATLANTA -- Coca-Cola Co. said Friday that it was buying the rights to bottle Cadbury Schweppes PLC soft drinks outside the United States for about \$1.85 billion and that it also expected its fourth-quarter earnings to fall short of analysts' expectations.

The news sent the company's stock tumbling; the shares closed down \$3.0625 at \$63 on the New York Stock

Coke will get the rights to Cadbury's beverage brands in more than 120 countries outside the United States, France and South Africa. In addition to Dr Pepper and Crush, the beverages in-clude Schweppes and Canada Dry mixers and regional soft drink brands.

The move to pump up overseas sales comes as Coke warned that fourthquarter earnings would fall as much as 20 percent below forecasts as sales slow in much of Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Coca-Cola said it expected to earn 24

cents to 25 cents per share for October through December. Analysts had expected earnings of about 30 cents a share.

M. Douglas Ivester, the chairman and chief executive of Coca-Cola, cited "a pattern of volatility in many markets that has resulted from continued economic and political uncertainty.

But analysts praised the Cadbury deal, saying it would help Coca-Cola increase its share of the global softdrink market

'Coke is all about controlling liquid intake, and this is going to give them more for their arsenal," said Jennifer Solomon, an analyst at Salomon Smith

John Sunderland, chief executive of Cadbury Schweppes, said the London-based company did not have the distribution systems necessary to make a worldwide beverage operation succeed, and wanted to focus instead on increasing its share — now 15 percent — of the carbonated beverage market in the

"Outside the United States, we only have a 3 percent market share," Mr. Sunderland said.

Cadbury trails Coca-Cola and Pepsico Inc. in the United States. Coca-Cola is the world leader in soft drinks. Despite the international problems it disclosed Friday, Coca-Cola has vowed to stick to its strategy of investing heavily in slumping markets so it can recoup, lost sales when those economies re-

Mr. Sunderland said Cadbury would use funds from the sale to expand its remaining businesses and for acquisitions. He said the deal would create "substantial value for our shareowners and simultaneously enhance our ability to develop and focus on our strong global confectionery and U.S. beverage business."

In London, Cadbury shares closed at

£9.89 (\$16.53), up 67 pence. Completion of the deal is subject to regulatory review in a number of countries, but is expected in the middle of (AP, Bloomberg)

Egypt and Israel Weigh Natural-Gas Pipeline Link

By William A. Orme Jr. New York Times Service

JERUSALEM - An Egyptian natacross the Sinai desert, laying the groundwork for a regional power network that could bind Israel closer to its Arab neighbors and radically change its energy and security strategy.

By directly fueling electric power plants, as its builders intend, the Sinai pipeline would end Israel's dependence on sources a continent or more away for vital energy imports. Israeli officials agree that the Egyptian connection would be the easiest and cheapest way to satisfy spiraling domestic power demands.

But before concluding a deal, the two

countries must overcome intense mutual mistrust, Egypt has irked Israel by linking progress on gas sales to the Pal-estinian peace talks, and at the moment the pipeline is to stop 40 kilometers (25 miles) short of the Israeli border.

"These decisions should be made on purely economic grounds, and economically the Egyptian project is best," said Natan Sharansky, the Israeli minister of trade and industry. "But the Egyptians have wanted to make this a political issue,

a way to apply political pressure."

Ahmed Maher Said, the Egyptian ambassador to the United States, said in a telephone interview that Egypt wanted the project to succeed. "If it is a question of a guarantee that the supply of gas would continue without political vetoes, this could be done with a statement of intent," he said. "It does make good business sense. To me, it seems like this

is a go situation." The new pipeline — originating in Nile delta gas fields and paralleling the Mediterranean shore — is now being built by a 50-50 partnership between the state-owned Egyptian General Petro-leum Corp. and the giant Italian con-glomerate ENI SpA, a developer of Egypt's 40 trillion cubic feet of natural

Within two years, gas is expected to begin coursing through the 150-mile pipeline to what is now its official destination: El Arish, an isolated Sinai beach town just west of Israel and the Palestinian-administered Gaza Strip.

The Egyptian government has not yet put forward a formal offer for a longterm supply deal. And Israel says only

that it is "considering the option" of buying the gas from Egypt.

But the builders are banking on a

deal: The scale and trajectory of the project make it clear that Israel is the viable market for the pipeline, and ENI does not disguise its expectation that the pipeline will extend well beyond El Arish. Already, ENI has signed an agreement in principle to supply gas to the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, and company plans show the pipeline con-tinuing to the three main coastal power plants in Israel.

This is a natural start for a system that could extend throughout the re-gion," said Enzo Viscusi, an ENI spokesman in Rome. "It has great im-

The project represents a revival of the 'peace pipeline' idea discussed by gypt and Israel in the afterglow of the Oslo peace accords five years ago. The proposal foundered with the chilling of Israeli-Arab relations after the conservative government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel came to power in 1996 and put the old Labor government's assumptions on the peace

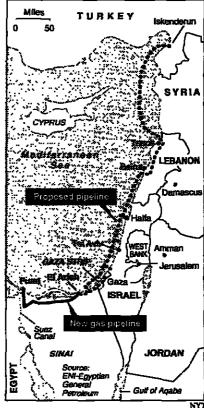
process under review. Egypt was unwilling to proceed with big cross-border business deals unless Israel continued withdrawing from Palestinian territories as required by the Oslo land-for-security plan. Israel was infuriated, saying its negotiations with Palestinians should have no bearing on negotiations for gas contracts.

In recent months, a flurry of dealmaking and ditch-digging resuscitated the pipeline, at a cost estimated by ENI at more than \$200 million, just as President Bill Clinton's Wye Plantation mediation effort led to the resumption of Israeli pullbacks from the West Bank. Mr. Clinton is to arrive in Israel on

Saturday night for further talks. "The situation today is that the government of Israel wants to buy the gas, and we are waiting for a decision from Egypt to sell us the gas," said Yossei Mairnan, president of Merhav Group, an

Israeli energy contractor. Six months ago, Petroleum Minister Hamdi Banbi of Egypt declared that commercial gas producers would be permitted to export to Israel, and expressed hope that political obstacles could be resolved.

The Israeli government says it wants



that policy stated more formally and emphatically.

In October, the ENI chairman, Guglielmo Moscato, signed a provisional agreement in Ramallah with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, to supply gas to the Gaza Strip.

As ENI acknowledges, however, a gas-supply arrangement with the Palestinian Authority cannot be concluded without the approval and technical cooperation of Israel, which controls the Egypt-Gaza border.

A power plant of the size ENI has discussed building for Gaza would use no more than a tenth of the pipeline's planned capacity. But in Israel, fastrising power demands combined with. environmental and budgetary considerations have fed expectations of bigincreases in natural gas imports.

At the same time, recent gas discoveries have tripled Egypt's proven reserves, and sales to Israel could eventually earn Egypt as much as \$300 million annually, it is estimated.

Israel needs to make decisions soon. Electricity consumption is rising fast, and its coal-fired power plants are casting a pall of particulates over coastal towns and beaches. Natural gas is cleaner than most alternatives, and, here in the Middle East, marginally cheaper.

Critical Merger Imperiled, Seoul Says

By Don Kirk International Herald Tribun

SBOUL - The first big deal at the heart of South Korea's program for re-structuring its heavily indebted conglomerates is headed for collapse, a senior South Korean official said Fri-

The deal, which was put together this week under pressure from President Kim Dae Jung, would have created one of the largest semiconductor producers

The two companies involved, Hyundai Electronics Industries Co. and LG Semicon Co., remain at odds over terms for forming a separate semiconductor company, said Lee Hun Jai, chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission, the agency overseeing the economic re-

"I would not expect the merger of

these two chipmakers will be successful," he said. "They refuse to cooperate. Both sides could not agree how to evaluate their companies.' Failure of the two companies to come

to terms would mark a major setback for the restructuring, under which the government for months has pressured the top five chaebol, or conglomerates, to agree on mergers of their weakest en-

tities or let them go out of business.

The government had repeatedly cited the deal under which the semiconductor division of Hyundai Electronics would form a new company with LG Semicon as a model for the entire merger movement. The deal was included in an overall agreement between the government and the five biggest chaebol under which the conglomerates said they would jettison or consolidate more than half their subsidiaries.

Mr. Lee suggested that the govern-

weapon, a cutoff of bank credit, if Hyundai and LG Semicon failed to reach agreement by the Dec. 24 deadline and then failed to prove that they could produce semiconductors separately. If they fail to keep promises," he

If they fail to keep promises, said, "the government will do what we promised." Under the agreement with the chaebol, he said, creditor banks, on orders from the government, would "cut off new loans" for companies whose balance sheets showed that they were not likely to become profitable.

Despite periodic threats, he said, the government had not previously used its power to force banks to cut off loans.

The clash between Hyundai, the largest chaebol, and LG, the fourthlargest, appears to be a typical struggle for supremacy among the South Korean

See CHAEBOL, Page 17

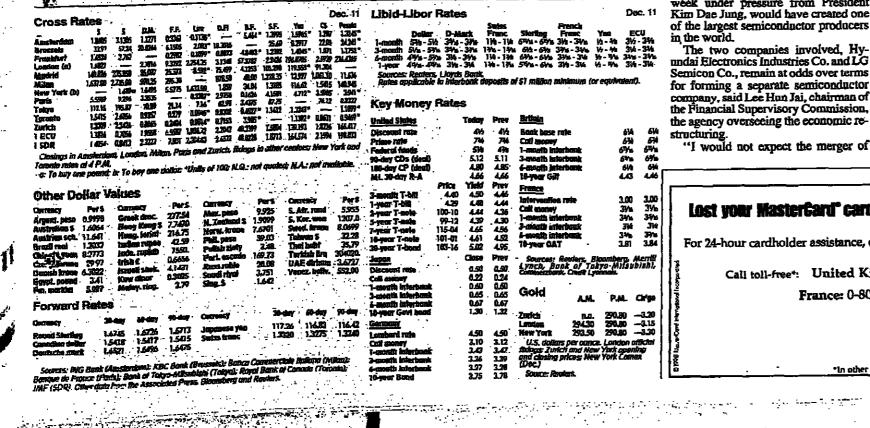
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Very briefly:

• Boeing Co. will cancel a plan to move production of some 737 jettimers from Seattle to a former McDonnell Douglas Corp. factory in Long Beach, California, dashing hopes the world's biggest aerospace company would add jobs and work at its Southern California operations.

• Seagram Co., a liquor company that diversified into the entertainment business, raised its bond sale by 75 percent to \$3.5 billion after luring buyers with higher yields than similarly rated companies. Seagram, which owns Universal Studios Inc. and PolyGram NV, is paying higher interest rates because of worries it may be a flop in the entertainment business.

• Pesquera Coloso SA slashed about a quarter of its work force and pulled boats out of service to cut costs as a scarcity of fish damages its key fishmeal business. So far this year, Chile's biggest commercial fishery has cut 800 of 3,000 employees, kept boats at port, and idled one plant in northern Chile that grinds anchovies into fishmeal. Costs have been reduced more than 13 percent this year.

• MCI WorldCom Inc. confirmed it would lay off about 2,000 workers as part of its first broad effort to slash billions of dollars in expenses. The cutbacks, which represent about 2.7 percent of the company's work force, will eliminate jobs that were duplicated in the September merger of WorldCom Inc. and MCI Communications Corp., primarily in network operations, information technology and engineering.

• Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette promoted David Moore to be managing director of U.S. equities and named James Ancey to a new position as managing director of U.S. institutional equity sales.

• Kitty Hawk Inc. will ground two airplanes as it considers ending all passenger flights to concentrate on its main business as the world's largest operator of air-cargo planes under contract to other companies.

•The Chicago Mercantile Exchange will add Japanese government bond futures and options trading on Jan. 21, to ruin" the helping U.S. companies with Japanese investments to offset for the year. possible swings in Japanese interest rates. AP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Dollar Hurt By Threat of Impeachment sovember while retail sales rose, government described wholesale prices fell in the United States in November while retail sales rose, Compiled by Our Staff From Disputches

NEW YORK - The dollar fell against other major currencies Friday on concern that impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton will sour foreign investors on U.S. financial assets.

The House Judiciary Committee on Friday moved closer to what is seen as an all-but-certain approval of articles of impeachment against Mr. Clinton.

Dealers said the impeachment process is turning foreign investors

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

sour on dollars and dollar-denominated assets, weakening demand for the currency at a time when many overseas investors are also leery about the U.S. stock market. Prices of stocks and Treasury bonds fell Friday.

The impeachment process is a huge negative for the dollar, and with Dow plunging on expectations for poor fourth-quarter results, the demand for dollar is dwindling." said Hugh Walsh, senior dealer at

Commerzbank in New York.
The dollar was quoted at 4 P.M. at 1.6495 Deutsche marks, down from 1.6514 DM on Thursday, at 5.5275 French francs, down from 5.5405 francs, and at 1.3285 Swiss francs, down from 1.3357 francs. It fell to 116.620 yen from 117.075 yen. The pound rose to \$1.6890 from \$1.6715.

Dealers shrugged off U.S. eco-. nomic reports showing that U.S. retail sales climbed by a stronger-thanexpected 0.6 percent in November, while producer prices fell by 0.2 percent, pulled lower by falling prices for energy, food and computers.

They said that while strong conumer spending continues to shield the U.S. economy from the effects of the global financial crisis, there is widespread sentiment in the market that U.S. growth will slow significantly in 1999. Traders said moves in exchange

rates were exaggerated because investors were unwilling to place amid expectations that Fed policylarge buy or sell orders in currency markets as they wind up their yearend books.

"A lot of the big players have withdrawn," said Christer Stefans-son, a trader at Swedbank. "Banks are just executing orders for cus- in the producer price index was the

As U.S. Wholesale Prices Fall, Retail Sales Rise

WASHINGTON - Wholesale

suggesting that inflation is not a threat and consumer spending is still going strong.

The Labor Department said its producer price index, which measures inflationary pressures before now at a 12-year low of around \$11 they reach consumers, fell 0.2 percent in November as the price of gasoline, vegetables and fruit all took a nose dive. The core rate of the index, which excludes food and energy costs, rose 0.1 percent in the

Sales at U.S. retail stores rose a strong 0.6 percent, to a seasonally adjusted \$229.4 billion, the Commerce Department said in a separate

*Economic conditions are the best I've ever seen," said the former Federal Reserve Board governor Lyle Gramley, an economist at the

nomic turmoil has depressed demand for oil and other commod-

Inflation has been almost as wellbehaved at the consumer level. So far this year, the consumer price index is rising at an annual rate of just 1.6 percent, even better than last year's 11-year low of 1.7 percent.

The November index will be reported Tuesday, and the expectations are for it to show a modest 0.2 'The inflation outlook remains

extremely favorable," said Marilyn Schaja, an economist at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette in New York. The absence of inflationary pres

sures has given the Federal Reserve the leeway to cut interest rates three times this fall in an effort to ensure that a big rise in America's trade deficit, which has battered manufacturers and farmers, does not push the country into a recession. The Fed meets again on Dec. 22

makers will leave rates unchanged now that the global financial crisis that leveled several Asian countries and Russia appears to have stabilized for the moment. The November 0.2 percent drop

tomers and big investors don't want sixth time this year that wholesale or pending initial public offerings of to ruin' their performance figures prices have actually fallen. It was the Interpret stocks. This was the third year, first outright decline since a 0.4 per-(Bridge News, Bloomberg) cent fall in August. The index had

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47.90 64.40 64.27
65.20 64.57 64.50
69.25 65.20 67.50
69.25 68.27 68.20
71.30 69.50 70.40
70.50 69.20 69.30

SUICARMORLO 11 OKSE)

risen by 0.2 percent in October.

Energy prices dropped 1.2 percent last month, their biggest drop since August, as gasoline prices fell by 6.9 percent and home heating oil fell dramatically. Park and fish costs were down 5.6 percent prices were also lower.

per barrel compared with \$23 per

by the loss of oversess export mar-subishi kets and falling world prices. In

November, food costs at the wholeinsatiable," said Rosanne Calm. percent drop in June 1997.

The November decrease reflected bage, lettuce and green peppers all

The retail sales report bodes well as deep recessions in Asia have cut for the year-end holiday season, world demand by about 750,000 when many retailers earn as much as barrels per day. Crude oil prices are 25 percent of their annual sales.

The retail sales report podes well round groceries to containing, the over the percent last month after rising 0.7; percent a month earlier.

Fiven so, there are signs some containing, the over the percent last month after rising 0.7; percent a month earlier.

Fiven so, there are signs some containing, the over the percent last month after rising 0.7; percent a month after Sales at stores open at least a year

"The consumer is fundamentally sale level fell by 0.5 percent, the chief equity economist at Credit biggest monthly decline since a 0.8 Suisse First Boston Corp. in New

The sales gains were broadly a 16.1 percent plunge in vegetable prices as the cost of squash, cabances and furniture, rose 1.0 percent. after rising 1.9 percent in October.
Sales of nondurable goods, ranging from groceries to clothing, rose 0.4

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THE YEAR HANDS

sumers are nervous the good times; are on track to rise by 4.5 percent to might not last. The University of barrel a year ago.

5 percent this holiday season, action of the first barrel a year ago.

U.S. farmers have also been hurt cording to Bank of Tokyo-Mit-consumer sentiment fell in December: consumer sentiment fell in December : to 100.7 from 102.7 in November.

Nervousness also was evident in : the stock market, where worries that weak economies outside the United States might hurt earnings de-pressed prices. (AP, Bloomberg)

Clinton Hearings Cast a Shadow

500 index ended 1.44 points higher at 1,166.46. Losing issues outnumbered gaining ones by a 3-to-2 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index fin-ished 13.35 points higher at 2,029.31. Coca-Coia was one of the biggest

losers on the Dow after warning its fourth-quarter earnings would fall short of analysts' expectations. Its shares fell 3 1/16 to 63.

In the past two weeks, industry leaders including Boeing, J. P. Morgan, Union Carbide and Sears. Roebuck have issued profit warnings. All are Dow components.

impeachment process will hinder Mr. Clinton's ability to govern.

The price of the benchmark 30yield up to 5.02 percent from 4.95 percent Thursday.

On the stock market, American depositary receipts of foreign companies were particularly hard-hit. ADRs of Ericsson fell 1 5/16 to 22 13/16 and Telefonica SA's U.S.

shares dropped 434 to 1343/s.

Indications that the Judiciary Com-nities of the House of Represen-ings," an ADR analyst said. "It's

Technology stocks continued to outshine the rest of the market. Oracle was the most actively traded stock. year Treasury bond ended 1 4/32 rising 2 5/16 to 371/4 after reporting point lower at 103 16/32, taking the strong earnings because of the growstrong earnings because of the grow-ing popularity of its electronic commerce software. The company is also benefiting from sales of software

aimed at solving the year 2000 bug.
Microsoft rose 2 7/16 to 134 and
Sun Microsystems rose 4½ to 77%
But Impath fell 15 to 24 after the company, which makes medical di-"You could argue that it's profit agnostics equipment, said its earnwarnings that is keeping U.S. stocks under pressure, but I see people fotions. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

Schwab Puts Hot On-Line Trades on Hold

SAN FRANCISCO — Charles

Schwab Corp., the biggest on-line brokerage, said Friday it would periodically suspend trading of some stocks and other securities on the Internet because of their volatility.

Schwab allowed its customers to Franco, an electronic commence in analyst at Piper Jaffray Cos., said: analyst at Piper Jaffray Co

Web site Thursday that they could not place trades on-line for Infinity Broadcasting Corp. and three recent has put stocks on a no-trade list, and

about 15 stocks have been on the list phone, Mr. Taggart said.

Criticizing the restrictions, Steve for about a day each.

fospace.com Inc. will remain on the list until after it first sells shares, probably next week.

Schwab branch or over the tele-

sume later in the day, according to a should teach their customers not to spokesman, Tom Taggart. In place market orders."

Schwab's move comes less than a week after it raised maintenance margins - the amount of cash the Stocks on the electronic no-trade customer must provide to back time in less than two weeks Schwab list may be traded in person at a trades using borrowed money - or 22 Internet-related stocks.

The Trib index Prices as of 4:00 P.M. New York time -2.46222.82 -2.69- 1.19 +15.43274.17 +0.42+ 26.94 N. America + 1.16 -- 45.45 S. America Capital goods 239.36 -1.40-- 0.58 +14.13197.92 -1.55-0.78Energy +1.52133.41 + 8.50 Finance -- 1.46 -3.01-- 1.64 + 20.41 Miscellaneous 205.66 -- 1.04 + 17.99 179.68 **-- 1.28** -0.71+7.68

Friday's 4 P.M. Close 如何是我们再发生的现在分词,我们有我们的现在分词的现在分词的,我们是我的人,我们这种有意识的,我们是我们有我们的人,我们是我们的人,我们是我们的人,我们们的人,我们是我们的人,我们们的人,我们们的人,我们们的人,我们们的人 The 200 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street. AND CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF

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Allackenzie Find \$.05 (2:3) 1-4
Peoples Holding Q .19 (2:2) 1-4
Union Community Q .10 (2:2) 1-6 REDUCED COCOA (NCSE)

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES Dec. 11, 1998 LIBOR T-MONTH (CMER) GOLD (NCNU)
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Jun 99 67,45 64,76 67,55 -1
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Jun 99 67,46 68,75 67,60 68,45 -1
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THU'S OPEN IN SZ-861, UP 18,456

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Cable & Wireless Loses Chief Executive to EDS

LONDON — Richard Brown, ecutive, Rod Olsen, 53; as acting when Mr. Brown came to C&W, had been dismissed as impossible. visionary and a swift decisionmaker as chief executive of Cable & Wireless PLC, has left the No. 2 British phone company to head Electronic Data Systems Corp.

RDS, a U.S. computer services gi-ant on Jan. 15, after 29 months at the helm of C&W. The unexpected move hit C&W's shares, sending them down 30 pence to 695 (\$11:56) on the London Stock Exchange. EDS shares rose \$1.875 in late trad-

ing in New York, to \$42,625.

"He was the single architect of the group's transformation from an unloved and disparate telecome holding company into a much more focused and shareholder-friendly group," said Justinian Clifford Bowles, an analyse at Credit I ventuals Securi-

Moscow Region

Wants Its Debt

Kestructured

Bloomberg News

MOSCOW — The Moscow

region said Friday that it was

seeking to restructure 1.2 bil-

lion rubles (\$59.8 million) of

bonds after it defaulted on a

payment due Thursday because its tax revenue is dwindling as

the Russian economy shrinks.

About 90 percent of the bonds sold by the Moscow re-

gion, which does not include

the city of Moscow, are held by foreign investors and were sold

in a private placement managed by Credit Suisse First Boston

and Unicombank, said Oleg Dzius, director of the Moscow

region bond department. Credit Suisse First Boston confirmed that it had placed the bonds. "Tax collection has fallen,"

The deepening economic crisis has left many regions scrambling for cash. At least

half of the regions' tax revenue.

comes from non-cash payments

such as bartered energy, or off-

sets for debts owed by state-

funded organizations.

Mr. Dzius said.

replacement as soon as possible.

Under Mr. Brown's direction, resigned a year earlier. C&W shook off its reputation as a Boardroom battles between the Mr. Brown, 51, will take over at sleepy leftover from Britain's colonial days and embacked on an ambitious expansion program that included shedding businesses where it did not have a controlling stake and buying MCI Communications Corp.'s Internet business for \$1.75 billion in July.

who carved out a reputation as a chief executive on Friday and said it be inherited a company still reeling would set up a committee under from the acrimonious relationship Chairman Ralph Robins to appoint a between its previous chairman and chief executive, both of whom had

two resulted in a series of policy Uturns and failed strategies, including abortive merger talks with British Telecommunications PLC.

Mr. Brown masterminded 21 deals at C&W valued at more than \$20 billion, selling off over £1 billion of assets in which the group lacked sufficient managerial influence. At the same time, he refocused

C&W into a communications giant for the next century spanning Europe, the United States and the Caribbean, Mr. Brown's mandate at EDS will Australia and Asia. Some deals, such be to foster a similar transformation as a complex merger of C&W's Britpete with more nimble rivals like groups to form cable market leader

Others -- such as his sale to China of a 5.5 percent stake in C&W's prized Hong Kong Telecommuni-cations asset, the main engine of group growth, in return for "unique opportunities" on the mainland are yet to be fully realized.

But amid criticism that details of deals on the Chinese mainland remain nebulous, Mr. Brown urges patience and dismisses suggestions he is leaving a job half done.

Mr. Brown's impressive track record helped convince EDS's search committee that he was the right person to restore investor confidence. EDS, founded by Texas billionaire Ross Perot and once known for its steady earnings growth, has struggled since being span off from General Motors Corp. in 1996 as it Malyst at Credit Lyonnais Securi- at EDS as the company tries to reigh fixed-line operator, Mercury, faced competition from Internation-blow for Cable & Wireless."

as a company tries to reigh fixed-line operator, Mercury, faced competition from Internation-with three U.S. cable television al Business Machines Corp. and oth-

said last month that the 15 EU mem-

Swiss imports originated in the EU.
"It's easier now to employ Euro-

peans, such as engineers, in Switzer-

land, and that's positive for our

company," said a spokesman for Schindler Holding AG. Under the

settle in Switzerland five years after

The Swiss also gave in to French

objections over the name of a white

Shortly after the approval was announced, Otelo, a private sector competitor to the statecontrolled Telekom, said it would cut phone charges by up to 61 percent on Feb. 1.

The cuts come amid aggressive competition that has re-duced Telekom's share of the lucrative market for long-distance calls to 74 percent since it lost its monopoly at the start of

Rate Cuts

Approved

For Telekom

FRANKFURT --- The Ger-

watchdog on Friday approved a

plan by Deutsche Telekom AG to cut phone charges by up to 63

percent, as the price war in Ger-many's newly liberalized tele-communications market esca-

telecommunications

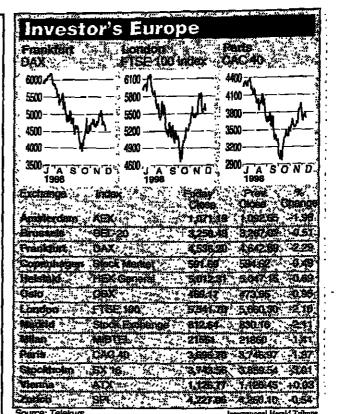
The authority said it could find no evident breach of market regulations in Telekom's new fee structure, despite criticism from some consumers that it was offering bigger cuts for customers with digital lines than for those with analogue

"We took our decision with the interests of consumers in mind," said Klaus-Dieter Scheurle, president of the Regulatory Authority for Telecommunications and Post.

Prices are now coming down faster than most phone companies had expected. The cuts are good news for customers, but the resulting revenue losses will

put earnings under pressure. Ron Sommer, chief executive of Telekom, said last month that the cuts would be "painful" and could be offset only by "dramatic cost savings."

Otelo was the second private phone company to announce rate cuts this week. Mannesmann AG's Arcor unit said Tuesday that it would cut prices by up to 54 percent in January. Otelo, owned by the utilities RWE and Veba AG, said longdistance rates would fall to 20 pfennigs per minute from 44 pfennigs, with a special weekend rate of 9.5 pfennigs per minute.



Very briefly:

- Rover Group employees agreed overwhelmingly to a cost-cutting plan that includes 2,500 job cuts to save the British automaker, owned by Bayerische Motoren Werke AG. The deal will keep Rover's main factory in Longbridge, England, open and will introduce flexible working hours.
- Hungary's annual inflation rate unexpectedly fell to 11.2percent in November, the lowest rate since December 1987, from 12.3 percent the previous month. The data prompted the central bank to lower interest rates for the third time in a month to bolster economic growth.
- Aga AB, a Swedish industrial-gas producer, plans to make a provision of 725 million kronor (\$90 million) against 1998 earnings to reduce its work force by 1,700 employees, or 15 percent, intensifying efforts to reduce costs.
- Olivetti SpA of Italy and Mannesmann AG of Germany plan to raise to almost one-half their stake in Omnitel Pronto Italia SpA, Europe's third-largest mobile phone network. which they already control, for \$1.5 billion in cash.
- Aerospatiale, France's biggest defense and aerospace company, said it was among several European companies in talks with the Spanish government to buy a stake in Construcciones Aeronauticas SA as the European defense industry
- British Petroleum Co. secured European Union antitrust approval for its planned \$61.2 billion purchase of Amoco Corp. after agreeing to shed an Amoco unit that distributes fuel additives, an EU official said.
- Wolters Kluwer NV, Europe's biggest tax and legal publisher by revenue, plans to split its stock 4-for-1 next year. restating share value in euros to conform with Europe's new single currency. The company's American depositary receipts will also be split 4-for-1.

 AFP. Bloomberg

Swiss Reach Trade Deal With EU

BERN - Switzerland and the BERN — Switzerland and the The two sides have haggled over ber states bought 63 percent of European Union have agreed on a pact that would break down barriers 1992 rejected membership in the October, and that 79 percent of erendum, would give Swiss compa-airlines to airports in the EU. nies greater access to the EU and open Swiss roads to heavy truck traffic from the EU, the Swiss gov
Swissair, the airline owned by pact, all EU workers will settle in Switzerland five traffic from the EU, the Swiss gov
200 million Swiss francs annually the accord takes effect.

The Swiss also gave in the swiss also gave in the swiss also gave in the conditions.

The government said after the liberalized 15-nation market.

stern warning against it taking con-trol of the high-speed Channel Tun-

The rail service competes with

to trade that was valued at 150.7 European Economic Area, a free-billion Swiss francs (\$113.3 billion) trade bloc linked with the EU. The last year. The accord, which needs Swiss this week agreed to lower approval by the Swiss Parliament tariffs on agricultural imports in reand could be challenged in a ref-turn for greater access for Swiss

Swissair, the airline owned by pact, all EU workers will be able to because of its exclusion from the

vote late Thursday that the accord would "give our relationship with the Buropean Union greater stability" and help "raise the competitions of the competition of the

which BA is a partner.

EU Allows BA Role in Running Eurostar Remers BA flights on the London-Paris and venture, whose partners also include BRUSSELS — The European London-Brussels routes, especially British Rail and bus operator Na-Commission on Friday allowed for business passengers, and is due tional Express Group, and the British Airways to participate in the to be run by the Inter-Capital and French and Belgian railroads SNCF

running of Eurostar, but issued a Regional Rail (ICRR) venture, of and SNCB. But it said this was only possible The commission, the European since BA's influence in the venture

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Japan Eyes Takeover of Nippon Credit

By Sheryi WuDunn New York Times Service

TOKYO - The Japanese government appears to be on the verge of nationalizing a second large bank, Nipnon Credit Bank, in a move that might foreshadow a wider cleanup of the banking system and a tougher stance by ancial authorities.

Japan's government is under pressure at home and abroad to be more assertive in confronting its economic troubles, and an initiative to take over Nippon Credit, which has about \$100 billion in assets, would presumably be welcomed by the financial community as a sign that the authorities are becoming more decisive in trying to resolve their bank-

ing problems.

Nippon Credit would be the second bank to be taken over by the government, after authorities in October nationalized e Long-Term Credit Bank, which is about twice the size of Nippon Credit.

A final decision on the expected Nip-pon Credit takeover, which was reported Friday in the local media and confirmed by a senior government official who refused to be identified, could come over the weekend.

Nippon Credit has resisted the move, but the government can effectively force it to accept nationalization. After selling off or liquidating its bad loans, which could take a year or two, Nippon Credit could be privatized or its viable operations sold to a healthier bank.

Nippon Credit's financial troubles have been well publicized for more than

bad debts are so overwhelmingly large that if accounted for properly they would put the bank into insolvency, according to Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Japan's leading economic daily.

Just over a year ago, the bank was rescued with an injection of 290 billion yen (\$2.48 billion) from the Bank of Japan and a collection of Japanese financial institutions. Then in March this year, the bank received about \$510 million in taxpayers' funds, on the premise that it was still solvent.

With such large amounts of public money being eaten away, some financial officials may push for stiffer standards at the banks in building a financial cushion to absorb possible loan losses. Many financial experts have argued that the amount of public funds drawn down in March was far too little to alleviate the banks' capital adequacy problems, and this may strengthen the hand of officials who want the banks to raise their intake of public funds under the new \$510 billion bailout scheme set up in October.

Still, Nippon Credit has apparently been hotly contesting the move by financial authorities who want to nationalize it, but it appears as though the bank may lose the battle.

The Financial Supervisory Agency, which inspects the banks, has been insisting that the government should take action based on the agency's findings. In the case of Long-Term Credit, for instance, government officials at first resisted an attempt within the agency to nationalization as an alternative soludeclare that Long-Term Credit was a tion.

a year, and some estimates are that the failed bank and insolvent, but in the end,

the agency officials prevailed. In its recent audit of Nippon Credit, the agency apparently discovered that the bank does not have a large enough cushion to absorb the possible loan losses on its books and that it has exaggerated the value of real estate taken as collateral for the loans, according to Kyodo News Service. The government official said that the agency's definition of bad loans was much stricter than that of the bank.

In its half-year earnings report for the end of September, Nippon Credit said that bad loans amounted to \$15 billion, but other estimates put the figure at nearly twice that amount, or \$27 billion, according to Japanese press reports.

Nippon Credit, which has pulled out

of international business, said it easily met government rules for capital adequacy for domestic banks. It has also said that by March 31, 1999, which is the end of this financial year, it will write off bad loans worth \$6.3 billion. which is about equivalent to the amount of its capital base.

Nippon Credit announced this week that it was entering into a broad-based alliance with Chuo Trust & Banking Co., a deal that originally provoked nimore that the two institutions were considering a merger. But Chuo Trust, which took over some of the branches of the failed Hokkaido Takushoku Bank, which collapsed just over a year ago, denied that it was considering a merger, and so authorities apparently turned to



ECONOMIC UNREST - The police dragging away a member of a trade union group during demonstrations in New Delhi on Friday, as millions throughout India protested government plans to privatize state firms and lay off employees.

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Cambodia Not Seen Getting ASEAN Entry

HANOI - The Association of South East Asian Nations will not admit Cambodia during a leaders' summit in Vietnam next week because there is no consensus on the issue, a Thai official said Friday.

"The timing is not opportune, and we should not be rushed to meet an artificial deadline because the summit is taking place," said Kobsak Chutikul, a Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Cambodia had been scheduled to join the regional organization in 1997, but political turmoil led to its application being put on hold until a stable government was in place. An agreement between two major factions was reached late last month, and the country was given back its seat at the United Nations this week. But some ASEAN members said it was too soon to admit the long-troubled country.

'This summit is about the economic crisis in Asia, not Cambodia," said Domingo Siazon, the Philippine foreign

Separately, ASEAN finance officials meeting in Hanoi Friday ahead of the summit said they were discussing the prospect of having Japan channel promised aid funds to the countries as a group, instead of doling it out to individual

Japan plans to unveil a \$30 billion package of economic aid for its Asian neighbors next week. It is aiming to provide funds for four ASEAN members - Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand — as well as South Korea, whose president, Kim Dae Jung, will also attend the summit.

"We want to try to avoid the Japanese dealing with us individually," an Indonesian official said. "If we deal with them as a group, we'll have more bargaining power.'

In addition to Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, ASEAN also includes Burma, Laos, Singapore, (AFP, Reuters) Branei and Vietnam.

Very briefly:

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• The Japanese Parliament approved a special budget to help pay for a 24 trillion yen (\$205 billion) stimulus package aimed at pulling the economy out of recession. Parliament also shelved a law requiring the government to reduce the budget deficit to no more than 3 percent of the gross domestic product

• Hyundai Motor Co. said it would make bankrupt Kia Motors Corp. profitable within three years with an aggressive export plan. Kia will make 800,000 vehicles next year. including more than 500,000 for export, said Chung Mong Koo, the Hyundai Motor chairman. Hyundai acquired 51 percent of Kia and its Asia Motors Co. affiliate this month.

• Citigroup Inc. is in talks to buy up to 51 percent of a 50-story office tower in central Kuala Lumpur from Malaysia's Amsteel Corp. Amsteel owns 70 percent of Invertin Sdn., which owns the Menara Lion office tower.

 Australia's media regulator plans to examine the Brierley Investment Ltd.'s sale of its stake in John Fairfax Holdings Ltd., amid concern it could give Kerry Packer, the nation's richest man, control of the newspaper publisher. Australia does not let a single person control a major television station and newspaper in the same city.

 Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd. may shed about 1,000 workers, or 30 percent of its staff, according to a restructuring proposal. LTCB was declared insolvent and take over by the government in October.

• Misui O.S.K. Lines Ltd., the world's biggest shipper by tonnage, plans to set up a Hong Kong-based company to operate its unprofitable scheduled container unit in a move to boost its parent earnings. MOL Japan will be established on April I, said Hiroshi Asano, a spokesman for Mitsui O.S.K.

 Seagate Technology Inc., the world's largest disk drive maker, said seasonal demand is causing product shortages in almost two-fifths of its product lines. To meet the increase in orders, the Californian company is boosting production in its factories in Asia.

Mahathir Seeks Views of Fund Managers

By Thomas Fuller International Herald Tribuse

KUALA LUMPUR - Prime Minister Mahathîr bin Mohamad met Friday with a group of foreign fund managers - the people he has criticized for helping trigger Southeast Asia's economic namoil - in a move that analysts said was intended to smooth relations with

the international financial community. An aide to Mr. Mahathir said the prime minister listened to the fund managers' views on Malaysia's currency controls and other issues during the hour-long meeting but made no comment on whether the government was planning to change its controversial policies anytime soon.

"It's an exercise of sending some messages," said Mohamed Ariff, executive director of the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research. "I think it's quite obvious that Malaysia has affered from bad PR in recent times. build bridges, to keep good connections with the fund managers.

Bernama, said that Mr. Mahathir told the fund managers that the currency controls would remain in place "for the time being" but that the government was considering measures to "fine-time them."

What could have been an awkward meeting — fund managers facing the man who has demonized them on several occasions — is said to have gone smoothly. Diplomats and politicians here have long pointed out that Mr. Mahathir's acid-tongued rhetoric usually contrasts sharply to his practical

economic turnoil spread throughout the meeting since Malaysia imposed controls on its currency in September. As part of the controls, foreign investors were

The country's national news agency,

policy decisions. Mr. Mahathir and his aides have met several times with fund managers since region last year but this is the first such

This is in an indication that they want to banned from withdrawing their money from the stock market for one year.

The rule, which angered many foreign portfolio investors who had money in the market, was central to the hour-long discussions, according to news agencies.

The aide to Mr. Mahathir said the idea of an "exit tax" for foreign stock market investors that would replace the oneyear ruling came up during the talks, but that Mr. Mahathir made no specific comment on the government's plans. "The government hasn't decided

anything yet," the aide said. "We will look into all the suggestions." The Malaysian stock market seemed to react favorably to the meeting, with the main index closing up 1.6 percent at

The gathering was organized by Sa-lomon Smith Barney, the U.S. investment bank that took on the role of official adviser to the Malaysian government this year. A total of 13 fund managers from Hong Kong and Singapore attended.

533.88 points.

CHAEBOL: Critical Merger Threatens to Unravel, Seoul Says

percent of the assets of the And 3,000 Dacwoo employ—we don't know."

new company, rejecting a ees demonstrated in front of Mr. Lee of the Financial proposal for 50 percent own—the central railroad station in Supervisory Commission ership. LG Semicon, which Seoul, across a vast square predicted, however, that the has a much smaller debt bur- from Daewoo's group den, has said it wants to man- beadquarters. age the merged company.

The confrontation between Hyundai Electronics and LG demonstrations, citing the Semicon has emerged as a test company's profits in recent the of the willingness of the years and predicting a similar chaebol to bury their differences in mergers and of the ability of the government to

television sets and refrigerators, for Samsung Motor sung Motors walked off the Co., also encountered major problems Friday. The parents of the two companies, the structuring agreement be Samsung and Daewoo tween the government and the groups, rank second and chaebol was announced. third, respectively, among the chaebol in terms of assets. About 10,000 workers at

Continued from Page 13 tronics plants walked off their said executives were "workjobs to protest the commit-ing on specific plans" for the industrial giants. Hyundai ment to sell the company to merger.

Electronics, suffering from a Samsung Electronics Co., Asked whether Samsung debt-to-equity ratio of 8-to-1, one of the most successful would resume making cars, has insisted on control of 70 companies in South Korea. he replied, "At this moment,

Officials at Daewoo did

not seem disturbed by the profit for this year despite sagging demand for consamer products.

"They don't want to merge

to abide by the agreement."
The 6,000 workers of Samjob at the company's plant Tuesday, the day after the restructuring agreement between the government and the A spokesman for the com-

pany, which has suffered tremendous losses since produthe go main Daewoo Elec- cing its first cars in March,

economy would recover from turnoil after going through a protracted restructuring. "Once we succeed in

structural reform," he said, 'the stock market recovers, they raise money through the stock market." He acknowledged that 100,000 more workers might

lose their jobs, raising unem-Efforts to bring about another, more complicated deal. Senng, a Daewoo spokesman level of about 1.5 million, but the exchange of Daewoo Still, he said, "The principle lectronics Co., which produces consumer items such as to abide by the agreement."

The 6 000 more responses of Senne. ployment from the current level of about 1.5 million, but

One key, he said, would be foreign investment. Many companies "are desperately trying to sell but haven't had success," he said. "We can expect lots of transactions in the near future."

South Korean polinicians indicated Friday, however, that they would oppose efforts at opening up the country's \$12 billion telecommunications market, saying that the heightened competition from abroad would push domestic companies into bank-

ruptcy.
A National Assembly subcommittee voted to recommend that the government delay its plan to allow foreign investors to buy as much as 49 percent of South Korean companies starting Jan. 1.

The foreign investment limit is now 33 percent.

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B.P. 2174, L-1021 Luxero

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s to a decision of the Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held on December 2, 1998, the liquidation of Fidelity Special Growth Fund Sleav (the "Company") has been closed.

Liquidation proceeds not collected by the shareholders will be transferred to the Crisse des Consignations to be held for the benefit of the persons entitled thereto. The records of the Company are deposited at the registered office of the

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Company for a period of 5 years.

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BANK AUSTRIA BUSINESS UPDATE

Bank \ustria

DRIVE TO INNOVATE KEEPS THE BANK AHEAD OF THE GAME

Bank Austria is a leader in next-generation services.

ank Austria is the largest bank in Austria and in links than simple electronic its fast-growing "second core" markets in Cen-bank transfers or stock pur-tral and Eastern Europe. This predominance is chases," says Mr. Gruber. backed up by a wide range of number-one rankings in many individual sectors. The bank is, for instance. Central Europe's largest supplier of investment and Austria's Web site, whose latest prokerage services.

As the subsidiaries come with a very healthy balance and is already receiving 320,000 sheet, the bank's size and market shares are gratifying, say hits a month. Bank Austria officials. But they point out that achieving The Web site is "customer-and maintaining a market-leading size in and of itself has izable," meaning that customers not been and is not a prime objective of the bank

been achieved by keeping ahead of its fast-moving what information is supplied to markets and having the next generation of services them in their virtual office and ready for deployment when customers started asking for them. Ten years ago, this meant having a network of The offices are staffed by "cy-privarization and capital procurement experts in place ber-advisers," who, if the cusjust before Central and Eastern Europe started moving tomer wishes, "pushes" suggestoward the free market. Five years ago, Central Euro-tions and propo peans started investing heavily in shares — often via the his or her needs. mutual funds Bank Austria had already set up.

The future is now

Today, along with the euro, the next great trend about to. This is the product of a joint. weep the Continent is second-generation on-line banking. Bank Austria's customers are already available Broad Vision, Blaxxun Interact-themselves of its new-look Web site and the advanced: ive, the Munich-Silicon Valley services and features it provides.

Internet banking is still in the take-off stage among Europe's "sohos" (small office and home users) and the rest of the retailing sector.

"Of our 800,000 retail customers, some 50,000 — half of them sohos — now bank on-line, a number that should quintuple over the next five years," says Walter Gruber. Bank Austria's general manager, engineering multi-channel banking and new media.

"The fact that on-line banking is still in its early stages on the Continent hasn't, however, stopped us from setting up a Web site meeting the needs of secondgeneration users, the ones using on-line links every day. and now starting to expect something more from the curs via three on-line COIs

INTERNATIONAL

INVESTING

Headquartered in Vienna, CA1B Investmentbank

Aktiengesellschaft maintains 13 offices in Cen-

tral and Eastern Europe. With a staff of ap-

proximately 700 professionals, GA-IB-provides a

managing mergers and acquisitions and mass

privatization funds, to handling capital markets

CA IB's activities are by no means confined to

Eastern Europe, however, or to the Continent. Quite

the opposite. The investment bank's offices in Lon-

don and New York carry out a full range of tracing and

capital market activities. Furthermore, CA IB is the leading sponsor and market-maker on EASDAO, the

pan-European stock exchange. This home to high-

ticipeted in 41 issuing syndicates in 1998. Of them, nine were in the CEE and 22 in Western Europe, with

Austria accounting for a further six. Over the last few

months, CA iB has been expanding its area of

operations southward and eastward into the Greek

During the post-revolutionary era, CA IB has fa-

cilitated 27 privatization transactions in the CEE,

170 percent more than the number two in the field.

Over the last three years, the bank has acted as a

syndicate member in more than 40 West European

privatizations. As one might expect, CA IB is very

strong on its home market, having been repre-

sented in the lead group of all the country's major

To date, CA IB's capital markets arm has per-

growth companies was established in 1996. - .

transactions and asset management.

And something more is precisely what they get from Bank version was launched in October

can individualize their own "vir-

The customers determine even what the office looks like. tions and proposals tailored to

"Virtual bank office" is the apt term for these new-generation links," says Mr. Gruber. project with the companies expert on creating virtual communities, and Siemens.

Blaxum's programs also provide the Web site with another feature new to Europe's banking world: 3-D, on-line, customer-to-customer interactivity.

"Our Web site serves as the venue for real-time meetings between our customers, whose online encounters lead to the forging of business ties and the forming of interest groups." This oc-(communities of interest), at which participants learn about

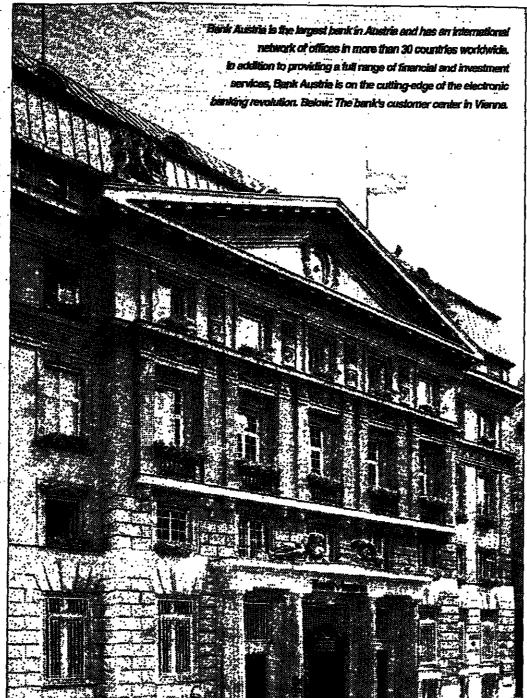
specially created product innovations. The Web site's features and flashy graphics have already attracted a great deal of professional attention and have earned it high praise.

In a recent survey of European bank Web sites and on-line links, the Lafferty Group singled out Bank Austria's site as the top Austrian banking Web site. praising its customer-friendliness, clarity of structures and other items. Michael Hennigan, chief electronic commerce analyst with Lafferty Web Research, stated that it "has the potential to be a significant European bank site."

The Internet: Its real impact is in the back office According to the conventional wisdom, the Internet is providing small banks with a competitive advantage. The Web allows them to reach a clientele of the size served by their large-sized counterparts, and to do so without having to maintain the latters' expensive net-

Mr. Gruber takes exception to this description. "Any bank can provide on-line accounts, but our clients expect more. They expect to be able to hit 'help' buttons — featured throughout our new Web site — and to get immediate, professional counsel on everything from the amount of financing required to start up your own business to the current rates of factoring. And only a bank capable of maintaining a large staff of resident experts can deliver this depth and breadth of on-line

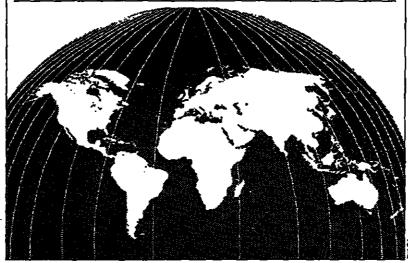
He adds: "This provision of on-line counseling highlights another, often disregarded feature of the banking world's move into on-line systems. Everybody is writing about how the Net is changing banking's front counters, but the effects worked by the Web on a bank's in-house procedures haven't really been covered at all." The design of Bank Austria's Web site, which involved a large-scale expenditure, went handin-hand with a reworking of the bank's information provision networks, "which involves both the IT and human infrastructure," explains Mr. Gruber.



Bank \ \ \ ustria Creditanstalt

WORLDWIDE NETWORK

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Belarus.	India	Slovenia
Belgium	Italy	South Africa
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Spain
Brazil	Lithuania	Switzerland
Bulgaria	Macedonia	Turkey
China	Moldova	U.K.
Croatia	Poland	Ukraine
Czech Republic	Romania	United States
France	Russia	Yugoslavia



INDIVIDUALS GET THEIR FAIR SHARE

Shares drive Capital Invest's success.

apital Invest (CI) is one of the fastest-grow-ing companies within the Bank Austria group. As of Oct. 30, the 166 mutual funds managed by CI had a total volume of 139.4 billion Austrian schillings (\$11.8 billion), up 21 percent over Jan. 1, 1998.

As CI's share-based mutual funds showed an impressive 53 percent rate of growth during the period, it would be logical to assume that the company's growth is largely the result of the Austrian investing public's strong — if belated — enthusiasm for investing in the stock market.

Helmut Sobotka, chairman of CI's executive board, doesn't like the word belated.

'That public is composed of two parts, the corporate sector and the private investors. And the corporate sector, which accounts for 50 percent of our business, has long been investing avidly in the stock market, often via dedicated funds that we create and

manage for them.
"Like private investors in the rest of Europe, Austrian investors are, in fact, rapidly discovering the attractiveness of share ownership. This interest has largely been the product of the new types of funds being offered." Mr. Sobotka adds.

Many of the new funds are pan-European in scope. To put it very simply, the new funds and the advent

of the euro have activated private Austrians' interest in investing on Europe-wide scale instruments with a Continental spread and/or denominated in euros or dollars or other international currencies. This newly awakened interest explains the overwhelming success of our EuropaTop mutual fund," Mr. Sobotka says. Launched at the

Helmut Sobotka, chairman of Capital Invest's executive board. end of March 1998,

EuropaTop is Cl's 50th public mutual fund and, with its pan-European focus, the first of its kind in Europe. It has a weighting corresponding to that of the Stoxx 50, the listing of Europe's 50 major blue chips.

High potential

Mr. Sobotka sees another factor driving Cl's rapid rise: the company's "two and one" strategy.

The "two" refers to the fact that Capital Invest was formed through the merger of Bank Austria KAG and DIG (Österreichische Investmentgesellschaft) June 24, 1998, creating one of Austria's three largest funds management corporations in the process.

Owned by Bank Austria and Creditanstalt respectively, the two mutual fund companies had been arch-rivals, competing for market shares via their nationwide networks of offices and representatives and highly individual ranges of products. The networks have been maintained, as have the range of products.

"We believe we'll get more business by keeping our corporate images and pools of customers separate than from combining them," says Mr. Sobotka. "While maintaining the individual identities of Bank Austria KAG and OlG to the outside world, we have. of course, been busy realizing a great number of inhouse synergies, interlinking our IT, research and other capabilities. This unification is the 'one."

Mr. Sobotka has big plans for Capital Investment: a tripling of its investment volume within five years. Isn't that a bit ambitious in times of a mixed stock market performance and relatively low rates of income growth (both personal and corporate)?

Mr. Sobotka doesn't see it that way. "Our potential for further institutional investment - I'm thinking of corporate and private pension funds in particular in Austria and the rest of Central Europe is still very large. The rapid growth of Hungary, Slovenia and other neighboring and nearby CEE countries has produced a new generation of private investors. It's our job and objective to reach them." •

STRONG TRACK RECORD IN FINANCING EASTERN EUROPE

Award-winning CA 1B investment bank weathers the storm in Central and Eastern Europe and increases market share.

works of offices.

year full of opportunities for the entire CEE region, re-CA IB Investmentbank Ak- tained its position as one of other sectors. tiengesellschaft, the investment banking arm of the
Bank Austria Group Altral and Eastern Europe — One of them was Eurgrough the economic crisis in and gained further shares in Russia has -- to varying ex- its market. tents - been affecting the countries of Central and East- Top rankings em Europe, CA IB success- CA IB held on to first place in fully and fully exploited the the rankings in the CEE's

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and Turkish markets.

Privatizations |

his year was — despite opportunities arising in the re-privatization advisory (in difficulties on Eastern gion. The Vienna-based bank, both number and total European markets — a which has a network covering amount of transactions), equity offering (number) and

> omoney's "Best Securities House in Central and Eastern Europe," for the third time running. All told, the bank has received 30 commendations and awards over the last seven years.

Good prospects
Although CA IB has not es-

gion's prospects in 1999.

Bank Austria Group Performance in 1998

Total Assets: 1.7 trillion Austrian schillings, (\$144.9 billion)

Operating Results: 8.7 billion Austrian schillings (\$738.6 million)

Capital Adequacy Ratios: Entire capital: 10.27%

Figures as of Sept. 30, 1998 Source: Bank Austria

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Bank Anstria Vordere Zollamtsstr. 13 A-1030 Vienna Tel.: (43 1) 711 91 0 Fax: (43 1) 711 91 56155 http://www.bankaustria.com

to rebound a year or two later.

(+7.2% over previous year)

(-16.8% over previous year.)

Core capital: 5.86%

caped unscathed from the says Mr. Hemetsberger. crisis in its main market, Willi Hemetsberger, the in- ties stemmed from the revestment bank's ČEO, is op- gion's "storm-proof" sectors arm is one of the leaders in its timistic about the CEE re-

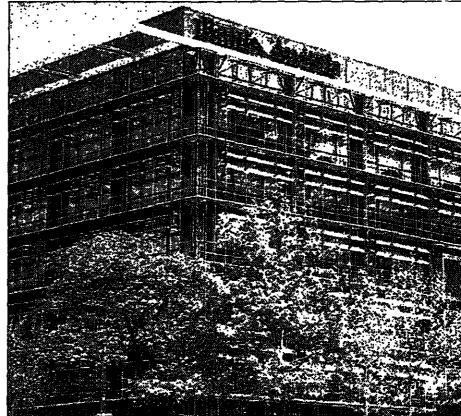
countries have experienced a number of the region's pub- Central and Eastern Europe, crisis at some time or the lic-sector-owned banks and already privatized compaother over the past 10 years, telecoms were sold off, with mes are now increasingly unincluding such current stars many more such transactions dertaking interregional meras Poland and Hungary, only slated for 1999. And the challenge has always FDI moving in been to perceive and exploit The Russian crisis has by CA IB, which has served the individual opportunities weakened the interest shown as these companies' investpresenting themselves during by portfolio investors in the ment bank throughout their the region's downs and ups," CEE region, but foreign di-

In 1998, these opportuni-- notably, telecoms and field in the region and has consumer durables -- and been advising investors on a "This is by no means our from the onset of the CEE's large number of such transfirst Russian crisis. In fact, privatization process. In actions. In the more advirtually all of the CER's 1998, major stakes in a large vanced reform countries in

rect investors are starting to take their place. CA IB's corporate finance

acquisition activities.

These are often facilitated



Bank Austria's new headquarters building, located in Vienna, is the nerve center of the bank's national and international financial and investment activities.

"Bank Austria Business Update" was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune. It was sponsored by Bank Austria and CA IB Investmentbank Aktienges. WRITER: Terry Swartzberg in Munich. PROGRAM MANAGER: Bill Mahder.



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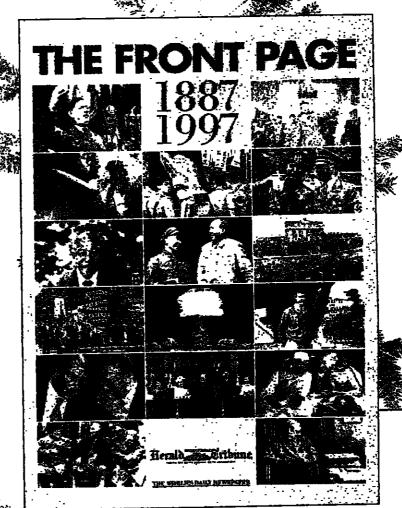
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Live Long and Prosper? They're Conflicting Goals as Life Spans Grow

By Aline Sullivan

E-mail address: moneyrep@iht.com

ONG LIFE and happiness are hlessings realized by surpris-ingly few people. For many, the life is long but the happiness diminishes along with the means to sup-

Retiring early, buying a vacation home, traveling, even helping a child buy a house or a putting a grandchild through school: These are some of the dreams that can fade as the enormous costs of the so-called golden years assent themselves. For the unprepared, living longer is the antithesis of living well.

Survey after survey shows that most people grossly underestimate the amount of money they will need for retirement. That is partly because they underestimate how long they will live, let alone the 50 percent chance of out- story. You might die at or below the

By Sharon Reier

and frustrations a young couple ex-

the National Association of

Home Builders in the United

gages for as long as 40 years.

for 50 or 60 years."

to prevent termites."

lending institutions offering mort-

last at least 40 years," he said. "And the average home built today is de-

signed to last at least 40 and probably

Technological advances in treating classic materials such as wood, said

years ago," he said, talking of a state where he built more than 8,000

true anymore. Now in Florida and

Homes built of wood, he added, are

Nor are space-age materials nec-

essary to ensure that a home lasts more

was built in 1500 of timber frame and

wattle and danb. He added that in the

southwest of England, houses built of

packed mud, locally known as cob, have been standing for 200 years.

Workmanship, he maintained, is

were some skillful precast concrete

more versatile than those made of lock. "The designs are more increasing," he said.

Substance mane by instead of formica.

Webb's market sporting and recreations are more increasing.

So they are expecting the home to

Making Sure a House

Stands the Test of Time

Materials and Features Adapt to New Needs

NYONE who remembers houses in Amsterdam that have surthe 1948 comedy "Mr. vived generations but could pose in-Blandings Builds His Dream sunnountable difficulties for

House" recalls the expenses someone who is 100 years old.

periences dealing with a comractor.

You start out building a home and the equipment runs down. For inyou wind up in the poorhouse," stance, Mr. Palmer said, the average

you wind up in the poorhouse," stance, Mr. Palmer said, the average lamented Cary Grant, whose character electrical system is replaced every 20 wondered about those less fortunate years—not because it does not work,

than himself. "Imagine what might but because it needs to be upgraded

happen to a guy who does not make for new gadgets such as computers, \$15,000 a year?" faxes and digital television.

Back in 1948, \$15,000 was a sub-stantial sum, the equivalent of about ically have wide openings into showers \$100,000 today. Few people can ex-pect that kind of income after re-bath. But, Mr. Shimberg said, "unless

tirement. So how can today's home the purchaser told the builder it was

buyers ensure that deteriorating being designed for an older or disabled

dwellings will not wipe out retire person, these would not be used."
ment nest eggs?

In the United States, where there

decide to remain in their own homes throughout their lifetimes "aging in place," said Diane Webb, a manager in the senior depart-president of the Florida Home Builders Association and former vice president of

States, said that confidence LONGER use in old age. For instance, in home construction these

days was such that there were now to strink, and they may not be able to

Mr. Shimberg, means that today's vacuum cleaning a lightweight hose homebuilders are not restricted to contact that plugs into outlets leading to a sys-

crete or brick to ensure longevity. tem of pipes in the walls. The dirt "When I first came to Florida 40 empties into a repository in the garage.

homes, "virtually all houses were communities, said her company was built of concrete blocks. That isn't seeing increased use of materials that,

many other places we use treated humber to prevent termites and rot. And the ground can be chemically treated for kitchens instead of linoleum,

than 100 years. Owen Palmer, a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, pointed out that the back and of his home in Surrey, England ways are a little bit wider to accommon the built in 1500 of simble finance and

hore important that materials. For American remess were willing to reinstance, he recalled, "back in the locate About 80 percent prefer to live

1950s in the U.K. we decided there in the place they had their careers, were some skillful precast concrete raised their children and made friends.

Home builders dismiss the idea seems to be a marketing niche for

living their life expectancies.

How long you will live depends greatly on who and where you are, though women tend to live several years longer than men, but there is no doubt that life spans have expanded greatly. In October, Joseph Chamie, director of the population division of the department of economic and social affairs of the United Nations, said that average worldwide life expectancy had grown to almost 63 years today from about 45 years in the 1950s.

That average disguises a wide range of life expectancies at birth, from as little as 40.3 years for men and 41.1 years for women in Malawi to as much as 77.4 years for Icelandic men and 82.9 years for French and Japanese women; according to UN data.

But for the investor worried about retirement, the average is not the whole

psychologically, to residents as the

longevity and upkeep of the structure. After all, there are 300-year-old canal

In other words, the needs of the

Ms. Webb said, may want the

kitchen to be accessible for

reach standard kritchen cabinets. Now

they can be moved lower."

there are cabinets that are adjustable so

Physical difficulties may also make it

harder for retirees to perform some

household choies. Vacuum cleaning usually requires lugging around a heavy piece of equipment, but Mr. Shimberg said many new homes now had central

Martha Moyer, a spokesperson for Del E. Webb Corp., a builder of adult communities, said her company was

while higher priced than those tra-

Corian countertops — a super-hard substance made by Du Pont Co. —

Webb's marketing emphasizes sporting and recreational facilities that

promote active living, Ms. Moyer said. But to cope with possible infunities,

modate a walker or a wheelchair when

you get older," she said. Levered doorknobs replace standard round ones

In its market research Webb found

But whether elderly people choose

In his own state of Massachusetts,

that only 5 percent to 8 percent of

to ease life for arthritis sufferers.

"The corrosive power of inflation is truly daunting," said Charles Ellis, an-thor of "Winning the Loser's Game."

"At 7 percent, your purchasing power drops to 25 percent of its present level in just 21 years, the elapsed time between early retirement at 61 and age

tirees will be affected.

reality in retirement planning. In the United States, about 45 percent of working Americans believe that they will need less than 60 percent of their current income to retire comfortably, according to a recent survey by the American Academy of Actuaries. But responses from the retirees surveyed found that only 20 percent spend less than 60 percent of their former annual income. Most people need to replace 70 percent to 80 percent of their pre-retirement income, said Ken Steiner, vice president

That will come as a big shock to working people who expect to be able to retire at 65 or earlier.

"The old paradigm of retirement at 65 or 67 doesn't hold," said Gary Krat, chairman of Sun America Financial Network Inc. "In fact, most of our financial

average, but then again, you might not. A responsible plan would contemplate a life span at the long end of the range and would ensure that your capital did not expire before you did.

How long is long? Mr. Chamie noted that people were reaching advanced ages in the 80s, 90s and 100s. The number of centenarians is expected to increase sixteenfold in the coming five decades, bringing the total to 2.2 million in 2050 from 135,000 today.

Looming advances in technology might add several more years to life expectancies. So financial assumptions that served earlier generations need to be reconsidered by those who at three score and 10 still have a way to go.

inflation is the enemy, no matter how miescent it seems at present. At even the modest rate of 2 percent a year, inflation will halve the purchasing power of today's money in 36 years. At percent, that time shortens to 24 years and at 4 percent to 18 years. A 6 percent inflation rate will make that same cut in just 12 years and, of course, cut it in half again in the next 12 years.

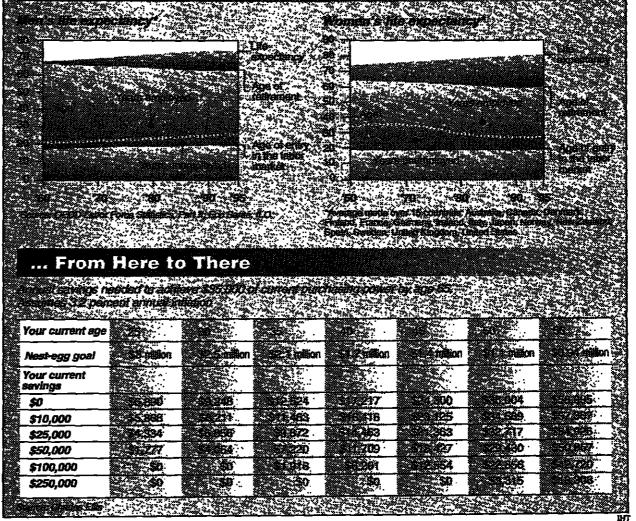
82, an increasingly normal life expectancy. This is serious business, particularly when an individual is retired and has no way to add capital to offset this dreadful crosion."

The state, if not an enemy, is certainly not much of a friend. The message should be clear. Do not count on the government. Countries around the globe are slashing benefits and boosting taxes as they face up to the impossibility of supporting legions of aging baby boomers by taxing the dwindling num-

bers of young workers.
In Brazil, for instance, the government has this year awakened to the fact that it is paying almost 10 times as much to retired state workers as it collected from them when they were working. It hopes to levy taxes of between 11 percent and 20 percent on these benefits starting next year if Congress approves the proposal when it comes up for dis-cussion in February. About 900,000 re-

Whatever the reasons, there is an of the academy.

professionals say their clients now plan. Even the most secure jobs can become a



to retire at age 60, five years earlier than they would have 10 years ago."

A Longer Distance...

Nearly two-thirds of the baby-boomer respondents in a Kemper Scudder Investment Inc. study published earlier this year admitted that they had no idea how much money they would need in retirement. But ignorance does not breed bliss: 76 percent said they were worried about their financial future.

They have good reason to be. While some expenses do usually shrink as retirement looms, notably child care and using, others rise. Top of the latter group is health. Indeed, financial advisers suggest you assume that health-care costs will rise by at least 3 percentage points above the rate of inflation in the United States and double that in Europe, as government subsidies decline.

Confronted with the statistics and the almost overwhelming sums necessary to ensure a comfortable retirement, many people respond by vowing to retire later or never, earn substantially more money, or rely on an inheritance. All three scenarios are unrealistic, fiencial advisers warn.

Many people find that their earnings peak in their 40s and that afterward they are more likely to be laid off. In Japan, thousands of middle-aged employees who had assumed that they would spend their working lives at one company are now worrying about unemployment. grind as age advances: The commute becomes unbearable, for example, or the temptation to do something different overwhelms. As for inheritance, long-term care and taxes are likely to seniously erode the fortunes of all but the richest relatives.

Assuming that the bull market returns of recent years are the norm may prove just as big a mistake. From 1982 to 1997, the New York Stock Exchange yielded a compound annual return of 12.8 percent — great news for anyone approaching retirement. But for the 20 years to 1973, the annual average real retorn was negative, Mr. Ellis writes in his book. The coming decade is any-

one's guess.

Look at Southeast Asia, which is well known for its high saving rates (18.9 percent in Malaysia from 1971 to 1996, compared with just 3.8 percent in the United States) Few people predicted the region's economic crisis, but certainly its people are better off than if they had not saved. Of course, it is possible to have too much of a good thing. Many economic analysts attribute at least part of Japan's current problems to its cul-

ture of high saving and low spending. Another assumption worth reviewing is that investors should shift funds into bonds as they age. The conventional wisdom - determining the percentage of assets that should be in stocks by subtracting your age from 100 - makes more than their basic needs in retirement. Stocks usually outperform bonds and are a far better bequest to make to children or charities.

Mr. Ellis suggested that investors ask themselves the following questions:

• Does my plan assure of enough income to pay for an appropriate standard of living — after inflation — dur-ing retirement? For most people, this works out to 75 percent to 80 percent of pre-retirement spending plus 3 percent to 4 percent annually, compounded to offset inflation.

• Will my financial reserves be sufficient to cover emergencies such as health crises in old age?

• Will the remaining capital match my goals and intentions for giving to my heirs and charities?
"If these core questions are not fully

and affirmatively answered, your plans needs to be reconsidered and changed, perhaps substantially," Mr. Ellis said. "Do it now."

For further information:

THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT has a report called Maintaining Prosperity in an Aging Society that can be viewed at symmetric displaying the property of the can be viewed at symmetric displaying. THE UNITED STATES maintains a website with contensive comparisons of international retirement systems wave.sss.gov/atacistics/esptw97.html

WINNING THE LOSER'S GAME, Timeless Strategies i Successful Investing. By Charles D. Ellis. Published in M 1998 by McCraw-Hill. S24.95. Connact: Lydia Rinaldi telephone at 1 212 337 5045. ISBN: 0-07-022010-7.

You Should Live to Be 100 — and You Just Might

By Conrad de Aenlle

TEALWAYS thought that at 65 we would retire, then play golf," says Jeremy Rifkin. "For a lot of people now, that is just over midlife." Mr. Rifkin — author, lecturer and diviner of scientific and economic trends - thinks that a lot more of us, not long from now, will have to rethink our notions of old age and retirement as advances in genetic research and treatment reset the upper limit of the life span.
"No one knows for sure," he cantioned, "but if you

have a very sophisticated approach to keeping people well through diet and exercise, it seems not unlikely to have the average life span at 100 to 110 for people who

are here now, people who are 2 to 3 years old.

"I'm being very conservative now. There is no reason in the next 20 years why we couldn't have a life span of 100 or a little more. For those folks who are middle-aged now, advances over the next 20 years will put years on people's lives. Depending on how fast the technology moves into the marketplace, it's not unlikely to extend

the life span five to 10 years for many people."

This is the advent of the "biotech revolution," Mr. Rifkin said, citing some of the initial skimmishes that have been occurring with astounding frequency: sheep cloning; genetic mapping and screening; manufacture and regeneration of human body parts; the creation of interspecies hybrid cells.

Research being done now, he said, will bring changes in all facets of life — including how long it lasts.

"This is not a marginal evolution, but a core revolution of the 21st century," said Mr. Rifkin, who founded the Foundation on Economic Trends in Washington and is an adviser to governments and a fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. He is the author of "The Biotech Century:

Harnessing the Gene and Remaking the World."

He prefers a revolution along the "soft path," with genetic screens used to devise the best programs of nutrition and exercise to maximize each person's life span. People found through screens at birth to face a risk of developing colon cancer, for instance, could be started on a high-fiber diet at the appropriate time.

Over 95 percent of longevity is accounted for by better nutrition, hygiene and sanitation," he said. 'The way to use this science is to have a sophisticated 21st-century preventive health regime in the commercial marketplace."

This approach, apart from being practical, would eliminate the ethical and social concerns of such "hardpath" procedures as gene-replacement therapy and, perhaps, the development of made-to-order genes.



Jeremy Rifkin: Longer life through gene technology is 'not a marginal evolution, but a core revolution of the 21st century."

They are based on totally different approaches, with a totally different frame of reference and value system, and with different results for society," he said. Among his misgivings is that the quantity and quality of life could be held for ransom by a handful of multinational pharmaceutical companies owning patents on all 100,000 human genes.

Life-science companies are looking for "ways to control genetic instructions to extend age," he said. "The hope is to min the human stem cell into a living factory that they can control to turn on switches to produce those

parts of the body they need to regenerate. The stem cell is what embryos are made of before

cells become differentiated into the building blocks of the various systems of the body: blood, nerves,

muscles and so forth. "That's a big problem on commercial and philo-sophical grounds," he said. "The public might be quite shocked at the prospect of global life-science

companies having patents on the human blueprint.
"Whoever controls the genes controls the 21st century," he said. "It will be as critical in the next century and controlling materials and fuels was in the industrial era."

The hard-path approach, he contended, 'raises serious questions of eugenics.' Genetic screens are already being used to influence decisions on employment, education and health insurance. It is not farfetched to think of a two-tiered society in which the "haves" are born with the right genes, or have the money to buy them, and the "have-nots" must get by with Brand X genes. Another result could be "gene wars" between northern countries, which have the money and scientific expertise, and southern countries, which are rich in genetic diversity.

"There's a broader ethical issue here," he said. "Does life have intrinsic value, or is it just intellectual property with commercial utility in the market? I think we'll see in a few years a genetic-rights movement." Mr. Rifkin dismisses the hard-path types as simplistic reductionists. He notes that their philosophy has been

used to suggest that someday the contents of human brains might be stored on computer disks and placed in new receptacles to produce a sort of immortality. If the hard-path approach wins the day, he said, old age may be spent unpleasantly, repeatedly replacing body parts and cells that have gone on the fritz. If the

path to extended life is as soft as he hopes, then those added years will be spent in good health. Mr. Rifkin has a few ideas about how people will be spending that extra time: "As people get older, what we're going to begin to see are new opportunities

beyond the marketplace and beyond government," he predicted. These will occur in a "third sector" of cultural, religious, civic and fraternal organizations. "Why not begin to have spirited debate in every

country on the possibility of creating separate vo-cations — paid, full or part-time?" he said. "We have to think from an early age about a

vocation, and we have to plan financially much more carefully. If we live to 100, what's going to happen to Social Security? We have to understand that increased longevity brings with it added responsibilities. This notion of retirement should be eliminated altogether.'

For further information: THE BIOTECH CENTURY: Harnessing the Gute and Remaking the World. By Jerenty Riftin. Published in May 1998 by Putnam/Tarcher, \$24.95, ISBN, 0-87-477909.

baildings going up in Demnark and France. But it was a disaster when we to stay or move, they should look into the tax climate, said Bob Gross, a tried to do it in England. The steel former real estate agent in the Boston beams have to be cut to fit into slots. Our workers didn't do it properly. area. Certain areas have tax breaks for retirees. Communities where elderly British builders, he added, are acpeople predominate may have low customed to bricklaying.

Mr. Palmer noted that new conreal-estate taxes, since they spend less on schools and drug rehabilitation. struction is tightly controlled by leg-islation and that the average builder Mr. Gross said, there is a real-estate tax deferral plan: Seniors who earn less than \$40,000 a year can defer will deliver buildings that last. "The main carcass of the house will undoubtedly be there in 100 years," he real-estate taxes, with a charge of 8

said "Tings like foundation and drainage will last indefinitely." buyers really care. "The average me buyer moves every eight

years. They want something that looks 160 years old." industry specialists pointed out that designing the interior of a house that designing the interior of a house to adapt to the fraithes and infirmities that

percent annual simple interest until But he questioned whether most either they sell or transfer the property value of the house. That is "almost unattainable," said buy something that will last 100 Bob Reardon, the tax assessing adsetts. "We are a wealthy community. The average home is worth \$380,000.

You would have to defer \$190,000. It would take at least 20 years." Byidently no one in Belmont has: that may accompany old age might be Bvidently no one as important, both financially and lived past 100. Yet.

THE MONEY REPORT

BRIEFCASE

Brokerage Service For Small Change

Individuals with only small sums to invest, along with just plain penny-pinchers, are Amgen Inc., Coca-Cola Co., welcome at the National As- General Electric Co., Mi-The group, based in the north- ney Co. Other companies are western Detroit suburb of to be added later. Troy, Michigan, is known for its efficient, low-cost program that enables members to

of about 150 companies. Now NAIC has a new program called Stock Service. which allows investors to buy

dividend-reinvestment plans

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The plan includes U.S.-listed stocks that are popular with investment clubs, including

The commissions consist of two parts. All investors in the program pay from 3 cents buy one share and join the to 8 cents per share, depending on the size of the trade (it takes 1,501 shares to get the 3-cent rate).

In addition, there is a choice of three annual fees. Platinum-plan investors pay an annual fee of \$200 for the right to execute an unlimited number of transactions. The Gold plan for moderately ac- to the stocks of companies that tive investors costs \$60 a year sell them, in the opinion of and imposes a \$4.50 charge for the first six purchases each covers the industry for Goldyear with lower fees thereafter, down to \$3.50 for 26 or more. Less-active investors ference in London, Mr. can opt for the Silver plan, Dossin said a combination of with an annual fee of \$36,

plus \$8 for each transaction. A key distinction between this plan and regular discount stock markets made the sector brokers is that every month, all customer orders are consolidated. Shares are purchased on the last Friday of half results come in," he said the month, and the minimum "There is a big discrepancy investment for each stock is between what the market ex-\$10 so investors can start with a fraction of a share.

Other features of the plan are a money-market fund and the ability to purchase stocks modest \$25 commission, which is also charged on all sales, including stocks bought in the program, even under the Gold Plan.

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through a discount brokerage. program have dividend-rein- as they compete for shrinking vestment plans.

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Luxury Stocks Looking Pricey

With weakness in many economies making consumers nervous, up-market branded goods are becoming luxuries that people cannot afford. That assessment could soon apply Jacques-Franck Dossin, who man Sachs International.

Speaking at a recent conintensifying competition, reduced sales and high valuations after the rebound in an unappealing investment.

We expect negative news flow in January when secondpects and reality.

The reality is that purveyors of luxury items depend on consumers in Asia and emerging markets to buy their wares outside of the program for a and that these countries have been broadsided by various financial and economic crises. In particular, the deterioration of the yen and other Asian currencies is driving up costs at a time when disposable income is vanishing.

"Over the long term and short term, Asia remains the nies as Cisco Systems Inc. Mr. Dossin said.

shares of 240 companies most all the companies in the cing companies to cut prices markets, and because it is such a high-margin business. the decline in revenue "goes directly into the operatingprofit line," he said.

The high-end cosmetics business is in better shape, he said, but share prices have raced farther ahead, leaving valuations stretched.

Both sectors are notoriously inefficient in their use of capital and are weak in creating shareholder value, he added. The best company in this respect, he said, is Swatch Group; the worst, in his view, are Hermes SA and Clarins

A Bad Connection

After hitting a low in October, the American Stock Exchange's Computer Networking Index bounced nearly 70 higher early last week, only to run into trouble on Thursday, when it lost 3 percent. It was falling further on Friday, but this reflects weakness in communications equipment rather than computer networking, according to Independent Economic

Analysis (Holdings) Ltd. LDEA, as the firm is known, said Alcatel SA and Northern Telecom Ltd. were reacting to the profit warning given by LM Ericsson AB on Thursday. I.D.E.A. noted that Alcatel, which fell 7 percent Thursday, had already warned of weak profit.

Ericsson, which is not in the index, cited consumer preference for its less-profitable products for its warning. This has little to do with computer networking, which LD.E.A. thinks will remain strong, thanks to such compaand 3Com Corp. It forecast

An Offshore Account With a Twist

By Barbara Wall

N IDEAL complement to your existing checking account, or an offshore bank marketing gimmick? Exactly who are offshore multicurrency

checking accounts designed for?
These days, most offshore private banks offer a multicurrency checking facility of one type or another. Cynics might argue that these accounts are little more than conduits for the promotion of other private-banking products, such as mutual funds, but their promoters describe them as flexible, cost-effective and particularly suited to expatriates.

What customers get from a mul-ticurrency checking facility is a highyield, instant-access account denominated in the currency of their choice. There are usually no charges levied for check collections and no foreignexchange commissions. So if you were to set up a U.S. dollar account and deposit foreign currency checks into it, the money would be credited free of charge and the currency converted at that day's applicable rate.

As the account is held offshore, interest is paid gross. The interest rate applied depends on the balance and the currency the account is held in. For sterling accounts with minimum balances of £10,000 (around \$16,000) the rates vary between 5 percent and 7 percent. The rates for dollar accounts are slightly lower, typically around 4 percent on balances of \$15,000.

Not only do they pay interest, but most accounts offer free checking and have few other fees as long as a minimum balance of about \$7,000 is

maintained. There are some drawbacks. Typically, customers have a choice of at least 30 currencies in which to open accounts, but checkbooks are only available in U.S and Canadian dollars, British pounds and Dentsche marks. Accounts denominated in other currencies may require holders to telephone or fax their banks to make with-

debit or credit cards for the accounts. A few offshore private banks, including Guinness Mahon Guernsey Ltd., Royal Bank of Canada Guernsey Ltd. and Singer & Friedlander Isle of Man Ltd., allow clients to write

checks in different currencies. But multicurrency checkbooks have limited uses. There are no check guarantee cards to accompany the checkbooks, so they cannot be used for everyday payments. Also, the checks can take a long time to clear and account holders are generally charged a processing fee for each

"While dollar, sterling and Deutsche mark checks clear through

Multicurrency checking accounts come with high limited convenience.

the clearing system in the relevant -countries, an automated clearing system does not exist for multicurrency checks," said a bank executive in Guernsey. "Checks have to be sent for collection to the account holder's bank. This invariably incurs a charge which is passed on to the account holder. The charge can be as high as \$35 per check."

stant access accounts, multicurrency checking accounts are clearly not designed for everyday use. Penalties are levied if account balances falls below a certain threshold, and some banks restrict the number of transactions allowed each quarter.

Although they are marketed as in-

So who would benefit from a mul-

ticurrency checking account? "Multicurrency accounts are primarily savings vehicles, but account holders have the opportunity to make remote transactions," said Hazel

Mahon. "The type of person that might want to open an account with us is someone who works overseas and has commitments in a number of currencies or who is in receipt of regular foreigncurrency checks and does not want to pay foreign-exchange commissions or check-collection charges." claim.

"Some clients like the flexibility that multicurrency accounts can provide. For example, a client who works in the Middle East, who is paid in U.S. dollars and has bills to pay in Britain may decide to open a U.S. dollar and sterling account, so that he can choose when is the best time to switch currencies."

Onshore banks also offer multicurrency checking accounts for inter-national clients, but they often charge for paying out and receiving money into the account. National Westminster Bank in Britain, for example, charges customers £5 for every check issued. Also, it is musual to find onshore clearing banks that pay interest on instant-access currency accounts.

There are other accounts designed with the expatriate in mind that do not. have high minimum balances and restrictions on account access.

PaineWebber Group Inc. has an instant-access account tailored to U.S. expatriates. For an \$85 annual fee, PaineWebber will wire funds to a client's foreign checking account and pay the client's U.S. domestic bills. PaineWebber does not charge for for-eign exchange or normal account transactions, such as wire transfers and bill payments.

The PaineWebber Internation: Account pays interest - currently 4.72 percent — and there is no minimum balance, though the general idea is that the expatriate's salary is paid into the account. Funds can be accessed with a gold Mastercard, and an overdraft credit line is available.

For further information, call: - GUINNESS MAHON: 44 1481 723 506. PAINEWEBBER: 1 908 789 3165. ROYAL BANK OF CANADA: 44 1624 646 200. SINGER & FRIEDLANDER: 44 1624 523 235.

all major credit cards accept "The Japanese feel-good the index could test its record MONEYFACTS has statistics on tentate accounts. Telephone: 44 1 603 476476. www.ocra.com joining NAIC and paying a \$7 factor at the consumer level is high of 436, up from 380 on drawals, and many banks do not issue Kelling, a spokesperson for Guinness set-up fee for each issue. Al- still subdued." That is for- Friday. Advertisement INTERNATIONAL FUNDS For information please cont Katy Houri: Fax (33-1) 41 43 92 12 or e-b To receive free daily quotations for your funds subscribe at: e-funds@ht.com December 11, 1998 of HT/FUN/func Cheditalistalt ag Cop.Guarathed Fd Ltd-20/11 Guaratheed Saries Ltd-20/11 \$ 834.25E \$ 850.97E opa Prill S.A. 217 COLSERT SEC m CSAM Postion ᄪ Tours Eq Fd Crimen Seguent A Instantal
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GE Hopes Fame Extends to Funds

By Carole Gould

S GARY WENDT steps down as head of GE Capital Corp., the financing arm of General Electric Co., he leaves behind a financial services juggernaut involved in everything from credit cards to equipment leasing. But a recent flurry of advertisements shows that GE Capital is trying to raise its profile in another business: motival funds.

"GE is already a household name," said Michael Cosgrove, president of the investment services-group for GE Financial Assurance, a unit of GE Capital. "We have the advantages of two views of life - the Main Street, because of our consumer business, and the Wall Street viewpoint." GE ready offers eight stock and four bond funds to the public and plans to start 12 others. Four of them, including rank-bond and European stock funds, will be available in January.

As of Oct. 31, the company had \$13 billion in mutual fund assets, according to Financial Research Corp., a consulting group in Boston. That places it 53d among fund companies. But GE's chief executive, John Welch, is known for his directive that the company not remain in a business unless it can be one of the top two players. The industry leaders, Fidelity Investments and the Vanguard Group, have \$460.2 billion and

\$349.3 billion in assets, respectively.

But Mr. Cosgrove is optimistic. He expects to have \$20 billion under management within five years and \$100 billion within 10 years.

GE's history in the fund business goes back to 1935, when it started managing what were called the Electric funds, intended for middle and upper management at the company who performed

charitable work.

The GE funds now being promoted to the public were started in 1993. They carry steep sales charges: 5.75 percent for stock funds and 4.75 percent for bond funds.

THE GENERAL HUSCTRIC funds are open only to investors in the United States, including Poetto Rico, For Information, call 1 206 625 1755, or, tell-tree in the United States, 1 900 656 6626.

serious and boring. It can be fun and, well, weird. For this holiday season, I have been prowling the markets, checking newsieners and advisers and searching for jolly and strange stocks and funds as gifts or

personal investments. Here are some of the best. Sports teams. While most pro

teams are owned by fat cats who enjoy the testosterone rush of rubbing pulders with athletes, several issue stock to the public. The Cleveland Indians Baseball Co. held an initial public offering last June. While the team made the championship play-offs, the stock fell from \$15.25 to \$5.38 by October, but it has since

bounced back nearly 50 percent.

Richard Jacobs, the team's chief executive officer, promises the com-pany will be the foundation for an entertainment and leisure firm - unlike other sports teams, which have turned out to be lousy investments for the public. For example, Boston Celtics L.P., which owns the famous basketball team, is down 38 percent from its high and trades at a price-to-earnings ratio of 4, according to Bloomberg News.

A more substantial company is Florida Panthers Holdings Inc., which owns the Miami hockey team as well as two of the nation's best hotels, the Arizona Biltmore and the Boca Raton Resort and Club. This stock, too, has taken a big hit in 1998, falling 47

percent since the start of the year. Giving team stocks to kids is a great way to introduce them to investing. A company called One Share of Stock inc., in San Francisco, will take care of buying a single share—an expensive four-cent annual dividend holds, it proposition with most stockbrokers - will yield 11.6 percent.

NVESTING does not have to be and sending you (or your child) a serious and bosing. It can be fun framed certificate. You can still get orders in before Christmas. Check out their website, which shows just how each certificate looks.

Other sports choices: International Speedway Corp., which owns such auto-racing racks as Daytona and Talladega and is a superbly managed company; Churchill Downs Inc., owner of the home of the best-known race in the world, the Kentucky Derby, and a stock recently recom-

mended by Frank Curzio in his FXC Newsletter "extraordinary above-average growth' and Morrow Snowboards Inc., a tiny company that's

had a tough time lately but makes a product popular with kids. • Salacious stock. According to its latest 10-K filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Million Dollar Saloon Inc. is in the business of "owning and operating an adult cabaret" — in other words, a high-class strip joint. Or, as the company says, "a sophisticated entertainment chib catering to a professional clientele."

And what a stock certificate! It features three women in full color and various states of undress. But this is a serious company

based in Dallas and headed by a woman named Nina J. Furth (true!), that has issued dividends for the past 11 quarters and last year neited \$420,000 on \$3.6 million in revenues. The company is minuscule — a market capitalization of only \$2.1 million — and it trades at 34 cents a share after falling more than 60 percent on weaker earnings. But, if the

A similar stock, Rick's Cabaret International Inc., based in Houston, operates several nightclubs with sexy entertainment. It's running losses, however, and its stock has fallen 83 percent this year. By contrast, Million Dollar Saloon has registered four

straight years of profits and trades at a respectable P/E of 17. Noo Yawk cabbie. How would you like to invest in an unusual company, owned by immigrants and selling a product that helps scrappy,

low-income entrepreneurs work their

way up? It is a company started in 1982, making decent profits, paying a dividend of 8.8 percent and trading at

a P/E of 13. Also, incredibly, it offers

a unique tax break that lets you post-

The company, Freshstart Venture

Capital Corp., finances the purchase

of taxi medallions - that is, licenses,

currently going for about \$217,500

each, to operate on the streets of New

York. Its president, Zindel Zelman-

ovitch, a Soviet immigrant, got his

own first job driving a cab in 1972.

As one of just 80 government-designated "specialized small business investment companies" that lend to

"socially or economically disadvant-

aged people" — and the only one that is publicly traded — Freshstart can

extend a remarkable break to investors

under Section 1044 of the U.S. Tax

Code. If you are subject to American

taxes and have a profit in another

stock, you can roll over your gains into

Freshstart within 60 days and defer

taxes until you sell Freshstart. Check

pone capital gains for years.

with your accountant or the company, but, in general, you can shelter up to \$50,000 or more this way.

I am not advocating you invest that much—or anything at all. You'll have to check out Freshstart and decide yourself. Be warned, also, that the stock is thinly traded, with a market apitalization of just \$11.4 million.

But, along with its other benefits, the company provides an attractive way to invest in a booming New York, where, at least for now, taxi medallions are in limited supply but cabs (especially on rainy JAMES K. GLASSMAN ON INVESTING

nights) are in overwhelming demand.

• Sin Shares. In 1979, Burton D. Morgan formed an investment partnership for family members with an interesting proposition. He would invest only in stocks involved in vices such as smoking, gambling, drinking and fornicating — stocks like Philip Morris Cos., Harrah's Entertainment Inc., Seagram Co. and Carter-Wallace Inc., makers of Trojan condoms.

The fund was called "Sin Shares." Four years later, he took the fund public under a title the SEC found less provocative: Morgan Funshares. After all, sin and fun are often in-

terchangeable. I drew readers' attention to Funshares in this column two and a half years ago - not so much for the content of the portfolio as for Mr. Morgan's investment philosophy, compatible with my own. "Buy low and never sell," he told me. "That's the key. I'm sorry I waited so long in life to find this out."

Funshares is a closed-end fund, which means that it trades like a stock, on the Nasdaq, so you buy it

Thoughtful, Lucrative and Weird: A Passel of Fun Gifts through a broker, not directly as you would a conventional open-end mutual fund. Lately, it has performed spectacularly, returning 57 percent over the past 12 months, compared with 24 percent for the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index.

Another mutual fund that capit alizes on the holiday lifestyle is Ga-belli Global Couch Potato, which buys telecommunications stocks that take advantage of the trend toward sitting at home and watching the tube (computer or TV). The portfolio includes Cablevision Systems Corp., which owns cable systems in Boston and New York and a majority interest in Madison Square Garden; USA Networks Inc., which owns the Sci-Fi Channel and Home Shopping Network; and Seagram, which owns Universal Studios as well as its beer,

wine and liquor interests. • Fruitcakes. And finally, this nutty stock for Christmas: Paradise Inc., which makes candied fruit, used in the manufacture of fruitcakes. Paradise is a highly seasonal business, as you might guess. It loses lots in the first two quarters and makes lots in the next two. Partly as a result, despite steady profits, it is hardly a favorite with investors, currently trading at a P/E of 4.

All these stocks and funds make intriguing gifts — even better than a

Washington Post Service For further information:

e GABELLI GLOBAL COUCH POTATO FUND. Telephone 1 914 921 5100, or, toll-free in the United States, I 800 422 3554.

December 11, 1998

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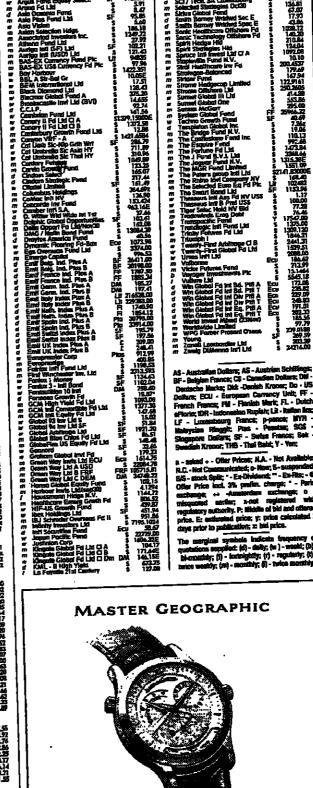
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governing body of the sport saying there were organization problems "experienced by the organizers." The FIA finalized its 1999 For-

mula One and Rally schedules.

China had been listed on a tentative

schedule as the second race of the

1999 season. In a statement, the

FIA said that China would be

placed on a reserve list with Argentina for 1999. "There also re-

mains the possibility that the FIA

can secure an agreement with the

teams to run an additional race."

2 Germans Set Records

the FIA said in finalizing the 16race Formula One calendar. (AP)

SWILDLING The Germans Mark

Warnecke and Thomas Rupprath set world short-course records Fri-

day on the first day of the three-day

European championships in Shef-field, England. Warnecke won gold

with a record time of 26.70 seconds

in the 50-meter breaststroke, bet-

tering his own mark of 26.97. Rup-

prath clocked 24.13 in winning the 50-meter backstroke, bettering the

mark set last year by Canadian Chris Renaud (24.25). (AP)

BASEBALL Dennis Eckersley, who appeared in more major league games than any pitcher, has announced his retirement. After 24 years — and 1.071 appearances — Eckersley retired after the Boston

Red Sox refused to offer him salary arbitration. "To be honest with you,

somebody had to make the decision for me because I wouldn't have done it," said Eckersley, 44. (AP)

The Devils Foil Lindros

HOCKEY No matter how hard

Eric Lindros tries, he can't seem to lead the Flyers past the New Jersey Devils. Dave Andreychuk scored 78

seconds into overtime as the Devils

beat host Philadelphia, 5-4, on

Eckersley Calls It Quits

WORLD ROUNDUP IOC Investigating Scholarship Fund

Inquiry Focuses on Salt Lake City Officials During 2002 Games' Bid

No Racing in China By Christopher Clarey International Herald Tribune AUTO RACING China Was dropped Friday as a site for a 1999 Formula One Grand Prix, with the

LAUSANNE, Switzerland - The International Olympic Committee formed a special commission on Friday to investigate scholarship payments made to relatives of some IOC members by Salt Lake City officials during their successful bid to host the 2002 Winter

The scholarship payments, termed "bribes" by an IOC member, Marc Hodler, were the primary focus on the first day of the IOC executive board meetings, and they will remain squarely on the agenda.

The four-man special commission, which will be led by the IOC vice president, Richard Pound, will consider the evidence in the case and attempt to deliver a judgment as quickly as possible — perhaps before the end of the meetings on Monday.

Pound, who had yet to examine any of the related documents, declined to detail what action his commission might take and declined to respond when asked whether Salt Lake City risked losing the

Games.
"We're not going to make any conclusions, or any speculation until we know what the facts are," said Pound, a

Canadian attorney.

John Krimsky, the United States Olympic Committee deputy secretary

remote possibility."

"Please understand that the organi-"Please understand that the organization of the Sait Lake Olympic Committee today is a very different group than the one doing the bid." Krimsky said. "There are a couple of carryovers, but this is not the same group."
One of the holdovers is the Sait Lake

Olympic Committee president, Frank Joklik, who was called to a meeting with the IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, on Friday morning in Lausanne and handed over documents relating to the case. Also present were Kelly Flint, senior vice president of Salt Lake Olympic Committee, and an American IOC member, Anita De-

"The inquiry hasn't really begun yet and when it does we intend to be fully cooperative," Joklik said.

The other three commission members are Thomas Bach of Germany, Jacques Rogge of Belgium and Judge Keba Mbaye of Senegal. They and Pound are among the most influential members of the IOC, which has decided to proceed with uncommon alactity in this case.

"The Executive Board takes this matter very seriously," said Pound.
"Despite many rumors in the past, we've never had something come for-

The scholarship fund was disclosed

general, said he believed that stripping two weeks ago by a radio station in Salt Lake Of the Games was "not even a Lake City. On Wednesday, Salt Lake Olympic officials announced that six relatives of the International Olympic Committee had received money from a privately financed \$500,000 fund to

help pay for their studies.

The only relative to have been identified is Sonia Essomba, the now deceased daughter of Rene Essomba of Cameroon. Sonia Essomba was given money to attend American University in

"I've already stated that I do not regard what was done as bribery, even though I recognize that there have been perceptions contrary to that," Jokiik said Friday. "I regret those perceptions but don't feel they're justified."

A total of 13 people were given schol-

arships or grants for training during the program, which operated from 1991, the year Salt Lake City was beaten by Nagano in its bid to play host to the 1998 Winter Olympics, and 1995, when it was the overwhelming choice to stage the 2002 Games.

Joklik said this week that the scholarship fund was established to offer educational and athletic opportunities to those from disadvantaged countries.

But Rene Essomba was a prominent Cameroonian physician and former secretary-general of the national Olympic committees of Africa, not a man of no



Alexandra Meissnitzer clearing a gate on her way to victory Friday.

Austrian Skier Wins Again

VAL D'ISERE, France - Alexandra Meissnitzer followed one of Alpine skiing's greatest names by winning a Val d'Isere giant slalom on Friday to complete back-to-back vic-

The 25-year-old skier, who also won the Super-G on Thursday, became the first Austrian woman to win a World Cup giant slalom in the French resort since Anne-Marie Moser-Proell in 1974.

World Cup lead as she won her fourth career spanning 15 seasons.

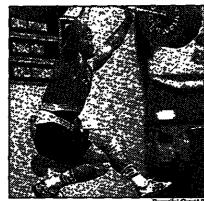
race in 10 this season. Meissnitzer's two-run combined time was 2 minutes 17.34 seconds. She built a big lead over the eventual runner-up, Deborah Compagnoni of Italy, with an opening run of 1:08.53. Meissnitzer's second-fastest time

of 1:08.81 in the second leg was enough to secure the triumph. Compagnoni finished .82 seconds behind. Anna Wachter, 31, another Ausrench resort since Anne-Marie trian, was third, gaining her first.

Moser-Proell in 1974.

World Cup podium of 1998 after a knee injury in January almost ended by World Cup lead as she was her found.

After Kazakhstan's Shining Moment, the Chinese Roll On at the Asian Games



Thursday despite Lindros' second Nurullaev Bahtiyar of Uzbekistan losing control of his lift on Friday.

BANGKOK - Kazakhstan's canoeing team brought a short pause Friday to China's rapid-fire gold medal collec-tion, before the Chinese weight-lifter Sun Tianni did the most thorough job so far at the Asian Games of smashing world records.

The Malaysian Lim Keng Liat also slowed the Chinese onslaught, winning a swimming gold medal that seemed to take him by surprise. It was Malaysia's first gold of these Games, and it later added a second in doubles snooker, where Sam Chong and Ooi Chin-kay beat Thailand's Phaithan Phonbun and Noppadon Noppachorn.
Indonesia also won its first gold here,

"I feel like I'm making history for my country," said Lim, who said he had hoped just to finish in the top three.

But China still took the bulk of the day's golds - 11 of 25 - and led the standings with 61 in all. Japan had 23, South Korea 21 and Kazakhstan 11. Kazakhstan won five gold medals in

canoes and kayaks in less than an hour - before China took the final two worn-

In other victories against China, Taiwan beat its women's tennis team for a gold, Indonesia defeated its men's badminton team for another, a South Korean beat a Chinese fencer in a championship match, and North Korea stopped a Chinese sweep of the day's four golds in shooting.

China's biggest setback came in men's 85-kilogram class weight-lifting, where the Asian record holder, Zhang Yong, failed on all three tries at 130 kilograms in the snatch, and had only a result from the jerk — 200.

Iran's Shahin Nassiri-Nia won gold with a total lift of 380—a snatch of 170 and jerk of 210. China's Yuan Aijun took silver with 370.

But in the women's 69-kilogram class, Sun Tianni outdid her Chinese women teammates Friday. On the four previous days, Chinese women lifters all had won gold medals and set world

marks, but none had completely rewrit-ten the records in snatch, jerk and total. Sun's 111 kilograms in the snatch broke the record of 110.5 set by a com-

patriot, Tang Weifang, last month, and her 135 in the jerk beat the mark of 133.5 set by China's Shang Shichun it May. Her total of 245 erased Tang's 242.5, set in April.

In the pool, Japan won two races and ching to a 12-11 lead after 26 of the games' 32 swimming events. Its wid-

games' 32 swimming events. Its win-ners Friday were Takashi Yamamoto in the men's 200-meter butterfly and the women's 4x100 medley relay team.

China closed the gap when Wu Yartyan and Chen Yan repeated their world championship 1-2 finish in the women's 200-meter medley, Jiang Chengji became the fourth fastest swimmer in the world this year in the men's 50-meter freestyle, and Chen Hua won the wongen's 800 freestyle.

SCOREBOARD

ASIAN GAMES

straight two-goal game.

FRIDAY BANGKOK, THAILAND Gold — China -South Korea

MEN'S ENCOKER DOUBLES Gold — Malaysia (Chong Tin-Sam and Oal Silver — Tholiand (Nooggan Moogachorn

o ne ren Karak sakales 1. Kazekstan, 2:03,67; 2. Say-1. Japan, 2:03,80; 3. Zhou

YRIGHE LURING JOHN STREET KAYAK PAIRS

1. China (Gao Beibei, Zhong Hongyan),
1.54.64; 2. Kazakstan (Notasha Sergeyeva,
Tania Sergina), 1:57.28; 2. Uzbekistan (Tania
Levina. Otsona Shpiganevich), 1:59.42,
WOREN'S RO-NETER KAYAK POURS.

WOMEN'S BON-METER KANAK FOURS

China (Feng Alling, Liu Zhimin, Goo Belbei, Xian Bangahga, 1:39-20; 2. Uzbek-bitan (Jana Isabuw, Jrina Lyudina, Anfonis, Massialewa, Olisana Shigigane-tricky), 1:40-81; 3. North Korea (Jo Jung-hwa, Pang Myongson, Ti Myong-bok, Kang Yon-arik), 1:42-23.

MEN'S SON-METER KAYAK SHIGLES

1. Yevgeny Yegarov, Kozakstan, 1 minuta, 49-52 seconde; 2. Anton Tyahov, Uzbekistan, 1:53-57.

MEN'S SON-METER PAIRS

1. Kozdostan (David Torboov, Dmith Kol-

. Kozuństan (Omini Torloper, Omini Kol-lemberger) 1:39:01; 2 Cohra (Fong Lei, Wang Cuthong) 1:39:22; 3, Uzbeldstan (Vladinjir Kozuńsky, Andrej Sobini 1:41.16. Bierre Soe-WETER CANGE SINGLES), Kolson Marmandada

Koison Nurmagarbeloc Kazakskin 3.51; 2. Dmitri Kavalenko, Uzbekliston 2:14.41; 3. Lee Seung-oo. South Korea

MEN'S 500-METER CANCE PAIRS Neurolaten Rossianilin Negodyoye, Sergel Sergelev), 1:53.16; 2. South Korea (Jun Kwatty-poli, Park Chong-Jun), 1:57.16; 3. Uzbekistun (Sergel Shoyskonos, Valdimir Shoysiamov), 1:58.88.
 Pasecines

WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL FOR Gold — Ko Jung-syn, South Korec Silver — Shen Weiwel, Ching 11-6 Bronze — Yang Shoo-qi, China MEN'S FREE RIPLE, INDIVIDU

dong), 3.45%; 2. South Karea (Park Bong-delk, Lee Eun-Chul, Cho Young-chul), 3.45%; 3. Thailland (Towerd Mojcharcheep, Vifi Mah-calurcheep, Nan Kundowong), 3.479, MEN'S STANDARD PISTOL, NONYIDUAL. 1. Jin Yangda, China, 574; 2. Dilishod Mukhiruw, Urbekistan, 574; 3. Wixul Kamdee, Thailand, 573.

MEN'S STANDARD PISTOL. TEAM I. North Karea (Klin Myong-sa, Kim Hyon-ung, Kim Jong-su), 1,707; 2. Kazakshan (Vladimir Gochaha, Vladimir Vlidnyanin, Igor Shmofilda), 1,704; 3. China (Lu Gan. Wang Shmofilda), 1,744; 3. Yifu, Jin Yongde), 1,695.

TWINING OF WOMEN'S 200-WETER INDIVIDUAL MEDILEY

1. Wu Yanyan, China, 2:15.12; 2. Chen Yon, China, 2:15.54; 3. Cho Hen-yeon, South Karna. WOMEN'S 100-METER FREESTYLE ia, Japan, 8:39.21; 3. Eri Ya

WOMEN'S 4X100-METER MEDILEY RELAY Nomices 3 Activated in Medical Present Lagari (Tokomo Hoghwara, Masami Tana-ka, Ayari, Adyama, Sumika Minamato), 4:04-70 2. China (Wu Yanyan, Li Wel, Ruda Yi, Shan Ying), 4:08-8: 3. Sorth Korea (Shim Min-I), Kiya Yam-hee, Cho Hee-yeon, Lee Bo-

NEN'S 60-METER PREESTYLE I. Jiang Chengji, China. 22.38; 2. Tomohiro Yamanoi, Japon, 23.26; 3. Hirosake Homano. MEN'S 200-METER BUTTERFLY

1. Takashi Yamamala, Japan, 1:56.75

1. Jaussil Tamannas, Japan. 136,73; 2. Ale Xviese, China, 1:59,67; 3. Hen Kyo-chul. South Korea, 2:00,46. MERCS 100-WETER BACKISTHOKE 1. Lim Keng-Lid, Medaysia, 55,35; 2. Fu Yong, China, 56,40; 3. Raymond Papa, Phil-Tallest Ed.

. TABLE TEROGES Gold - China - North Korea

er — North Korea nze — Hong Kong and Sauth Korea WZNOWYZLEFYZNIO MEN'S UNDER IN KOL IT Tissini, China, 135 kijas (world recon In Win-maw, Malaysta, 130; 3. Wu Mel-men, 127 & MEN'S UNDER AS KILOS 1. Shanin Massiri-nia, Iran, 380 ca-

Vijun. Chino, 379; 3. Bahtiyar Nurullaev

ICEHOCKEY **NHL Standings**

W L T Pts GF GA 16 7 3 35 76 64 12 9 5 29 73 62 10 7 7 27 71 64

N.Y. Rongers 10 10 7 27 72 69 N.Y. Islanders 10 17 0 20 68 81 BASKETBALL EUROLEAGUE

12 11 5 29 74 9 10 6 24 64 8 74 3 19 56

CENTRAL DIVISION

W. L. T. Phs. GF. GA.

15 9 1 31 84 61

9 8 6 24 60 54

W L T Pts GF GA 13 11 2 28 66 67 13 12 2 28 79 72

ARREST CONSTRUCT

Saratov, Rus., 83, Fenerbahce, Turk., 89 Zalgaris Kounos, Lift., 80, Vitorio, 5p. 76
Pou Orthey, Fr. 82, Verese, 11, 67
Strauspinesse, Zalgiris 16 points; Fener-balte 15; Pou Orthey 14; Vitorio 13; Verese

Maccobi Tel Aviv 78, Red Stor, Yug. 59 Mannesa, Sp., 58, Panathinatios, Gre., 63 STANDEROS: Panathinatios 18 points: Efes Pilsen Islanbul 16: Maccabi Yel Aviv 13: Mannesa 12: Cibona Zagreb 12: Red Star,

GROUP C
Alba Berlin 87, Ulterspor, Turk. 63
Zodar, Cra., 55 Glympiatous, Gree, 67
STEAMDBROSE: Olympiatous 17 po
Kinder Bologne 15: CSKA Moscow 12:
erspor 13; KK Zodar 12; Alba Berlin 11.
garnus 0.

PACIFIC DIVISION

W L 7 PS GF GA
16 3 3 35 66 37
15 5 4 34 69 50
9 11 6 24 61 66
7 17 3 17 57 77
5 14 7 17 53 67 U.S. COLLEGE SCORES THURSDAY RESULTS Men

TOP 25 No. 14. Michigan St. (5-3) def. E. Tenn. St. 85-53. No. 21. Tena. (6-3) lost to St. Josephia 55-53. Lafayette 81. Colum

First Period: Carolina, O'Neill 7 (Wesley, Emerson) (pp). Second Period: B-Khristich 12 (Allison, Sønsonov) Third Period: R. Mison, Samsonov) Taird Period: B-son 2. 4. Carolina, Gelinas 5 (Battoglia) 7. Taylor 1 (Klwissich, Samsonov) Shots at: B. 3-8-5—16. Carolina 16-3-9—28. Cal St.-Felletton 73, Montana St. 67 Fresno St. 82, Utoh St. 77 First Period: N.J. Sykom 19 (Amott. Elics) (pp.) 2, P-Lindros 15 (LeClaix, Janes.) 2, P. LeClair 19 (Desjardins, McGliffs) (pp.), 4, P. Svoboda 3 (Brind'Amour, Holl) (sh.), Second WOMEN Svebode 3 (Brind'Amour, Helft) (sh). Second P-Lindres 16 (LeCloir, Therlen). 6. N.J.-McKey 6 (Sykore, Elias) (pp). 7, New Jersey. Rolston 5 (Shariffjanov, Stevens). (sh). Third Pertod: N.J.-Holik 8 (McKey) Overflow: 9, N.J.-Andreychok 10. Perrollies.—Nane. Stefs on goal: N.J.-B-9-12-

Na. 5 Ga. (7-0) def. Ca. Southern 101-52. Na. 9 Ala. (7-2) loci to Na. 17 Florida (9-2) 77-71. No. 20 Perm St. (4-1) def. Maryland 79-44.

CRICKET

SOUTH APPICA VL. WEST HAD IN SECOND TEST, SECOND DAY FREDRY IN PORT ELIZASETH, S. AFRICA uth Africa: 245 and 143-5.

THURD ASHES TEST, FURST DAY

SECOND TEST, SECOND DAY FRIDAY IN LAHORE, PAKISTA

GOLF PRESIDENTS CUP

FREDAY IN MELSOURNE, AUSTRALIA ional 7, united series 3

ALTERN ATE SHOT Frank Nobile and Greg Turner, int., def. lark O'Meara and David Duval, U.S. 1-sp. Shigeki Manyama and Craig Parry, int. def. Lee Janzen and Scott Hoch, U.S. 3 and 2. det. Jim Furyk and John Huston, U.S., 2-up.
Tiger Woods and Fred Couples, U.S. det. Entire Ets and Vijay Singh, Int., 5 and 4. Stuart Applieby and Nick Price, Int., hat

with Davis Love III and Justin Leapard, U.S.

BEST BALL grvyama and Joe Czość, Int., def. Mark Colcavecchia and Huston, U.S. 4 and 3. Norman and Elkington, Inc., def. Officean d Furyle U.S, 2 and 1.

ies and Lave, U.S. def. Parry and Car ios Franco, int., 1-up. Appleby and Singh, int., def. Leanard and Woods, U.S. 2 and 1. Els and Price Int.

SKIING

WORLD CUP

FRIDAY IN VAL D'ISERE, FRANCE WORLEN'S GLANT SLALOM SUNGIO Meissnilzer, Austrig, 2:17.34 . Alexandra messanizar, pasara, 2.1. 2. Deborah Compagnoni, ficily, 2:18.16 3. Aniila Wachter, Austria, 2:18.31 J. Ansat violcuse, Augstra. 218-31
A. Ansat violcuse, Augstra. 218-35
S. Leille Piccord. France. 2:18-62
A. Jonico Kostelle. Credite, 2:18-73
C. Continue Rey Bellet, Switzerland. 2:18
B. Anna Orbasca, Sweden, 2:19-26
Birgit Heeb. J. Jectrierskein, 2:19-26
10. Karen Putzer, Italy, 2:19-78

10. Karen Putzer, tigly, 2:19,78 CHAPT SLALONE (etter 9 mous): 1. Meissnäzer, 280 puints: 2. Firenmen, 179; 3. Compagnani, 140; 4. Kostellic, 112; 5. Heeb, 11& & Marting Eril, Germany, 104: 7, Rest. 102: 8. Wochter, 96: 9. Piccord, 95: 10. oud, France, 69. OVERALL (effer 9 events): 1. Meiss-nitres, 625; 2. Ertl. 383; 3. Rennie Goelichi. Austria, 344; 4. Isoide Kostner, It., 263; 5. Per-nilla Wilberg, Swe., 250; 6. Cavagnood, 243; 7.

n, 21% B. Hilde Gerg, Ger., 200; 9.

SOCCER

TRANSITIONS MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

AGENTAL Announced retirement of freeogent RHP Dennis Eclarsky, Purchased

introck. Chicago—Extended contract of Jerry Annvel, manager, forcegh 2000 season. CLEVELAND—Named Brign Graham infleta coach and Clorence Jones orifield coach.
KANSAS CITY—Agreed to terms with \$5 Rey
Sanchez on 1-year contract, Acquired 3B Joe nda from the N.Y. Mets for OF Juan From Agreed to terms with Rounda on 2-

TAMPA SAY—Adreed to terms with OF Jose

COLDRADO-Put OF Denick White on PHILADELPHIA Agreed to terms with RHP Tyler Green on 1-year contract.

NATIONAL POOTRALL LEAGUE CINCINNATI-Put QB Nell O'Donnell on Ined reserve. Claimed RS Ray Zeliars off sivers from New Orleans. ricons. ned WR Russell Copeand Pet WR BB Sch NEW DRIEANS-ACTIVATED TE Josh Wilco

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE PALO—Recolled C Domenic Pit ster, AHL ont from Portland, AHL.

NEW JERSEY—Loqued D. Ken Suffon to Al-buny, AHL. Recolled D Colla White from At-

PURI ANGI PUIA ... Prof PR Charle Garner o

PITTSENSCH, Assigned D Tom O'Conner to Syrocuse, AHL, Referred G Jean-Sebastion on Aubin to Kansas City, IHL, and RW Don Kesa to Detroit, IHL, TAMPA BAY-Acquired D Draw Box

from Angheim for 2000 5th-round droft pick. CENTRAL METHODIST-Notice Gray ivan football coach. CLEMSON-Announced OL Robins Abdul

will forgo his senior season to enter NFL. MASSACHUSETTS—Agreed to terms with Brutser Flint, mens baskelball coach, on 2 year contract extension timingth 2002. autrogats—Extended contract of Terry Shen feetrali coach, 1 year through 2001 season. southwest ERK Louislana—Named Jerry Baldwin feethall coach.

TOLEDO-Signed Gary, Pinkel, football coach, to 3-year contract ext for 7 game for cousing on injury.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SATURDAY, DEC. 12

outscream, Port Eizabeth — South Africa w. West Indies, 2d test to Dec. 14 Lahore— Pakistan vs. Zanbabwe, second tests to 14 Adelaide — cristian

n, Ooliga Opea, to Dec. 13. NAMES, Bangkok, Tholiand —13th Askry mes, to Dec. 22. p Dec_ 13. act Junipero. Chartol, Germany — World Cop. 120-mater hill events to Dec. 13.

SICINO, Alphae World Cop. Vol d'Isere, France — mon, downfall, Mordie World Cop. Tobloch, Huly — men, women, to Dec. 12. Nordic World Cop. Stepmboot Springs, Colorada — to Dec. 13. Prestific World Cap. Champery. Switzerland — mogule, dual magule, to Dec. 13. SPEEDSEATTHA, Nageno, Jupan World Cup. to Dec. 13.

(now you're talking

SUNDAY, DEC. 13

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ATHERICS, Ferross, May — European MONDAY, DEC. 14

possum, La Plagne, France —World Cop. to Dec. 20. ascence, Alpine World Cop. Sestrine, Huly and, Sidem.

TUESDAY, DEC. 15

World Cup, to Dec. 16. WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16 A. BLATHE.Out, Osrbije, Slovetic — World Cup. to Dec. 20. SOCCER, Geo.

December of the Control of the Contr THURSDAY, DEC. 17

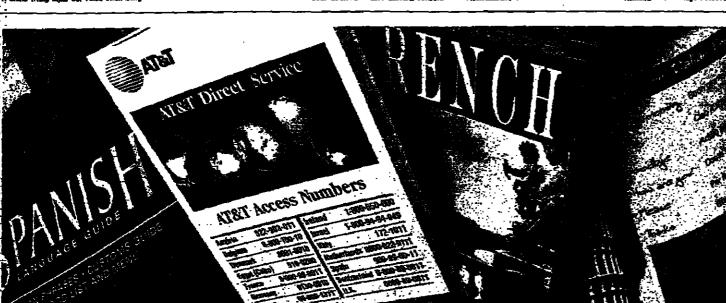
CRICKET, Reveleindi — Pakistan vs. Ziababase, 3d test, to Dec. 22. FRIDAY, DEC. 18 ...

CRECKET, Dunedin, New Zealand -- New SICIDIC, Alphon World Cop, Vol Got SATURDAY, DEC. 19

GOLF, Henderson, Navada — mes. with . Wendy's Three-Tour Challenge, to Dec 20r Lo Guinta, California — seniors, Lucis Challenge, la Dec. 20. 220 - Tillaruso, Liberac, Crack Surphilic World Cup. K120 hill event.

NG, Alpha World Cup, Vo — mes, downhill; Veyspandz — women, downhill. Northe W is, Switzerland — men, women CSER, Women's World Chang

SUNDAY, DEC. 20 seq Jumputa, Harrachov, Czech Re-public -- World Cup. K120 Hill event. SKIRWO, Alphae World Cap. Allq Badio Haly — men. giant statemy Veysonadz Swifterland — women, statem.

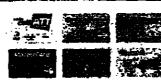


Nashvale
First Period: None, Second Period:
Noshvale, Kirokrasov 11 (Borteleou,
Borokovesky) (pp), Third Period: S.J.Murphy 5 (Ricci, Croven), 3, Noshvale,
Landamanna 4 (Edulum, Tuproble) Shalls on

ev 2 (Friedman, Turcette) Shots or

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TWUTTPILSDE

qualitying, return leg. Argentina vs. Madica SPERDORKATTREA, Seoul, South Korea — men. Women, World Cap, to Dec. 20.

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SPORTS

D' Day for Dolphins Can Their Defense Contain the Jets?

By Mike Freeman New York Times Service

deta (9-4) at Dolphins (9-4) Miami has been impressive at home, especially on defense, allowing 6.7 points a game. Overall, Miami has allowed a league-low 14.2 points a game. Another good omen for the Dolphins: Dan Marino has thrown for more yards (7,820) and touchdowns (68) against the Jets than any other team. But New

NFL MATCHUPS

York has the second-best offense in the American Football Conference and Miami's offense is average. Quarterback Vinny Testaverde is hot. Prediction: Jets, 31-17.

Cardinals (6-7) at Engles (3-10) Arizona's playoff hopes may have been destroyed in a crushing loss to the Giants last week; no one is sure how Arizona will react against Phil-adelphia Making Arizona's job easier is the fact that Philadelphia is still struggling. Cardinals, 30-14.

ns (11-2) at Saints (6-7) Atlanta can match its club record for victories, set in 1980. When quarterback Chris Chandler is healthy, the Palcons may have the third-best offense in the league behind Minnesota. and Denver. But they will face a very confident Saint defense this week. New Orleans will keep the Palcons from scoring 30 points, but Atlanta is atoo good. Atlanta, 21-19.

ers (3-10) at Packers (8-5) The refrain coming from the Packers these days is, "Go ahead, doubt us, but we're still dangerous." Yet losing to a struggling Tampa Bay team on Monday night was one of the low points for Green Bay this season. The Bears are confident against Green Bay, and even they don't know exactly why. Packers, 17-14.

Bengals (2-11) at Colts (2-11) Cincinnati has been one of the most disappointing teams in football and Coach Brace Coslet will probably be fired at season's end. On his way out the door, he will get his first loss as the Bengals' coach in four games at the RCA Dome. Peyton Manning has taken every snap this year (808 plays) and has 21 TD passes. Colts, 28-21.

Bronces (13-0) at Giants (5-6) By beating the Giants, the Bronces can both match the 1972 Miami Delphins, who finished the regular season 140. and win a league-record 19th straight game. In their last two games the Broncos have not looked pretty, and expect this game to be more of the same. Broncos, 31-21

Patriots (2-5) at Rama (3-10) New England has jumped right back into the playoff race because quarterback Drew Biedsoe has taken the team on his back. There is little chance that they lose to the Rams. Patriots, 31-10.

eiders (7-6) at Bills (8-5) It's not often that a game features four Heisman Trophy winners: Tim Brown, Desmond Howard, Charles Woodson and Doug Flutic. One might think the key to this game is Flutic against a very good Raider defense, but really it is the Oakland offense against the Buffalo defense. The Bills are tough

at home. Bills, 20-14. Steelers (7-6) at D The team that loses this game is basically out of the playoff picture. The Steelers are coming off a bad loss to New England, while the Buccaneers beat Green Bay last Monday night. That victory re-energized the Buc-

caneers' season. Tampa Bay, 26-14.
Offers (7-8) at Jaguara (10-3) It looks as if the Jagnars' quarterback, Mark Brunell, will miss the remainder of the regular season — at least with a severe ankle sprain. This totally changes the complexion of the Jaguars, because Brunell is so critical to their offense. Will it be enough for the Jaguars to hand off the ball to Fred Taylor 25 times? Ollers, 28-27.

Redskins (4-9) at Panthers (2-11) The Redskins quanterback, Trent Green, is suddenly hot, though it's about six weeks so late. Green has 12 touchdowns and only 2 interceptions in his last six games. Redskins, 13-7.

Chargers (5-8) at Senhawks (6-7) Seattle's coach, Dennis Erickson, is in trouble, but this week he gets a respite because San Diego, while allowing the fewest yards in the NFL, offers little challenge offensively. Seahawks, 27-16.

Comboys (8-5) at Chiefs (5-8) The Cowboys were the toast of the division until that bizarre 22-3 loss to New Orleans last week. The Cowboy coach, Chan Gailey, will make some adjustments and get Dallas back on track. Cowboys; 30-22.

Vikings (12-1) at Rayons (5-8) This could be a dangerous game for the Vikings. In addition to Baltimore's being shile to score some points, the Vikings are beat up. Still, with all the danger for Minnesota, they have quarterback Randall Cunningham and wide receiver Randy Moss. Vikings, 38-20.

Lions (5-8) at 49ers (10-3) League scouts say that one of the better performances put on by a quarterback in the second half of the season has been by Charlie Batch: But right now, Deroit is stating at a loss, 49ers, 30-14.

Norman Team Leads U.S. by 4

MELBOURNE - An inspired Greg Norman spearheaded the International Team to an unexpected four-point lead over the star-studded United States golf team Friday on the opening day of the Presidents Cup.

Norman, the former world No. 1, was at his best as the internationals, a team of world

PRESIDENTS CUP

players from outside Europe opened a 7-3 lead over the American team after the first of three days at Royal Melbourne.

'I think the Americans are going to be a little more geared up now," said Norman, who won both his matches teamed with a fellow Australian, Steve

Playing in oppressive conditions, with temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius (104 dees Fahrenheit) and winds of up to 40 kilometers an hour (25 miles an hour), the Internationals outganned their favored oppo-

nents on the first day. They won three of the five

morning foursomes matches, where teams of two take alternate shots playing the same ball, then three of the afternoon fourball matches when everyone plays separate balls with the best

score counting for each tearn.
The United States, which boasts the world's top four ranked players, won two matches while

the remaining two were drawn.
"They all felt like they played pretty decent, but it wasn't decent enough," said Jack Nicklaus, the nonplaying U.S. captain. "The other team played better."

The Americans hit the ground running when Tiger Woods and Fred Couples thrashed Ernie Els of South Africa and Vijzy Singh, Fiji's PGA champion, 5 and 4, in the first match of the day. But they did not win again until Couples and Davis Love beat Craig Parry of Australia and Carlos Franco of Paraguay on the 18th hole of the 10th and final match.

Norman, who only returned to competitive golf a month ago team," Norman said.

after undergoing shoulder sur-gery, led the charge with Elkington. The pair beat Jim Furyk and John Huston by two holes in the foursomes, then beat Furyk and Mark O'Meara by 2 and 1 in fourball after Norman birdied the first and eagled the second hole.

The only other player apart from Norman, Elkington and Couples to win both their matches was Shigeki Maruyama of Japan.

Fortune swung the Internationals' way when Frank Nobilo and Greg Turner of New Zealand, ranked 60th and 62d in the world, respectively, beat O'Meara and David Duval by 3 and 2 in the

second completed match. The match came down to the 18th hole with the Kiwis one up. O'Means seemed to have squared the match when he set up a birdie for Duval, only for Nobilo to sink a snaking 45-foot birdie putt, setting off a roar that resounded throughout Royal Melbourne.

Those are the type of things that filter all the way through the



اهتكنامن الأصل

Greg Norman reacting to a missed birdie putt Friday.

Scandal Heats Up Ashes in Australia

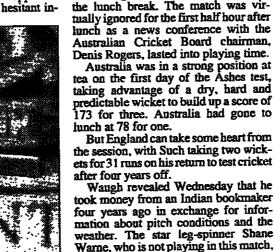
ADRILAIDE, Australia - Public anger at Mark Wangh's role in the bookmaker scandal that has engulfed cricket spilled over onto the pitch Friday when the Australian was jeered and booed

during the third Ashes test. Wangh walked in to bat for the first time since he revealed that he took

was greeted by a rolling series of boos, jeers and catcalls from a crowd of both

CRICKET

English and Australian supporters. The



Australia's Justin Langer on his way to innings of 108 not out Friday.

money from an Indian bookmaker and nings of seven runs from 30 balls. After he was caught and bowled by the English spinner Peter Such, Waugh trudged from the ground to a stony silence.

The scandal again overshadowed the third test, with the Australian Cricket Board announcing a new inquiry into fresh allegations about betting during the lunch break. The match was virtually ignored for the first half hour after lunch as a news conference with the Australian Cricket Board chairman, Denis Rogers, lasted into playing time. Australia was in a strong position at tea on the first day of the Ashes test,

173 for three. Australia had gone to lunch at 78 for one. But England can take some heart from the session, with Such taking two wickets for 31 runs on his return to test cricket

after four years off. Waugh revealed Wednesday that he took money from an Indian bookmaker four years ago in exchange for information about pitch conditions and the weather. The star leg-spinner Shane Warne, who is not playing in this match, also revealed he had taken money in similar circumstances. They both denied any involvement in match-fixing.

But the revelations have sparked outrage worldwide and led to calls for Waugh and Warne to be banned.

Secret NBA Talks Held; Exhibition Will Be for Charity

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Top negotiators for owners and players held a secret five-hour meeting to try to end the 5½-month lockout that threatens to cancel the entire National Basketball Association season.

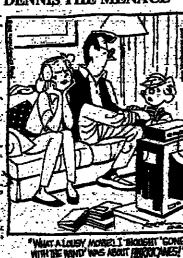
"We agreed not to discuss any of the details, and I don't want to break that pledge," the deputy commissioner, Russ Granik, said Friday. A spokesman for the union said he had no knowledge of the details of the session on Thursday. which was the first secret meeting since Oct. 28.

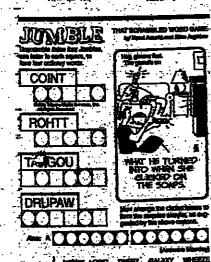
There have been no bargaining sessions involving the owners' and players' full negotiating committees in eight days, but it is likely there will be another one next week.

Meanwhile, organizers of an exhibition game in Atlantic City, New Jersey, reversed course and said they would donate all proceeds from the Dec. 19 game to charity, and none to players.

Profits from the exhibition game, if there are any, will be donated to Unicef and other charities. Ticket sales have been delayed twice.

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in Val d'Isere Men's second downhill tune in today 10:30 (CET)



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DAVE BARRY

Fun and Crafts Time

MIAMI — Ho ho ho! 'Tis the Christmas season, a time of festivity and fun and credit-card statements the length of "The Brothers Karamazov." It's also a time when the publications at supermarket-checkout counters are chock-full of articles featuring creative holiday craft ideas, with headlines like: "JFK JR TELLS OPRAH: "CAST OF "FRIENDS" ATÉ MY BABY!" "

No, sorry, wrong type of supermarket-checkout publication. The ones with the holiday craft ideas are the homemaker magazines, which are filled with articles like "50 Fun Holiday Crafts You Can Make With Your Saliva." The problem is that, to make these crafts, you usually have to understand some technical craft terms. For example, I have here a Family Circle article on 25 do-it-yourself holiday gifts; in the instructions for making a "Yuletide Shelf," it says that step one is to "gesso an unfinished wooden shelf."

Call me a big fat holiday dope if you want, but I have no idea what "gesso" means. It sounds like dialogue in a bad western:
First Cowboy: Yew fixin' ruh wrangle them heifers? Second Cowboy: Ah gesso.

The thing is, I happen to consider myself a craft expert,

based on my experience in the summer of 1966 at Camp Sharparoon in Dover Furnace, New York, where I held the title of Craft Shop Counselor. They did not give this title to just anybody. They gave it only to those individu-

It expresses the perfect holiday message: This cost me nothing.'

als who, when asked, "Do you want to be Craft Shop Counselor?" answered "O.K."

Our most popular craft project—in fact, our only craft project
—was having the campers make "lanyards," which were these
things that you made by braiding something called "gimp."

I suppose I should have come up with some other craft
projects, but I was pretty busy fighting bats. The Camp
Sharparoon craft shop was located in a rustic old structure that housed what had to be the largest irate bat colony in North America. Around dusk the bats would swarm out and, perhaps angered by the "gimp," swoop around the campers, causing them to become frightened and commit potentially serious braiding errors. So I, as the authority figure, would try to hit them (the bats) with a broom. I got pretty good at it. The key is to have a relaxed grip on the handle, keep your eye on the bat and follow through on your swing. I could consistently drive a bat 25 feet, which is more than twice the best distance ever attained by so-called craft expert Martha Stewart.

And that is why today I am proud to present the following holiday feature, "Christmas Projects for the Craft-Impaired." We'll start with an easy and inexpensive gift idea:

HOLIDAY COAT HANGERS This is the perfect solution for that embarrassing moment when people give you a gift and you didn't get anything for them. Simply take an ordinary wire coat hanger from your closet, tie a festive red ribbon around it, and you have a useful, hand-crafted gift that perfectly expresses the holiday message: 'This cost me nothing." If you don't want to go to all that

I always end up just drinking the rum, or, if no rum is available, beer.

trouble, you can simply give people a hanger and tell them to tie their own ribbon on it. For that matter, they might just as well use their own hanger, no sense in killing yourself! You have other projects to think about, like this fun and rewarding idea for the kids:

MAYONNAISE NATIVITY SCENE Get a big jar — no, get several big jars — of mayonnaise. Scoop the mayonnaise out onto a table or floor in a big glob, and tell the kids to make a Nativity Scene out of it. They can't, of course, but they'll be busy for the next few hours, which

FESTIVE HOLIDAY EGGNOG Eggnog is a traditional old beverage that gets its name from two words, "egg," meaning "egg," and "nog," meaning "a

sound people make in the bathroom if they have consumed too much eggnog." You need a dozen eggs, a quart of rum and some other ingredients that I forget. Begin by separating the egg whites from the yolks. When you're done, take a standard No. 2 pencil and write me a letter explaining how you did it, because I never could. I always end up just drinking the rum, or, if no rum is available, beer. Which always puts me in a good mood to plan my:
HOLIDAY "SURPRISE" GIFT PARTY
Invite all your friends, and, in the invitation, tell them to

bring a wrapped gift with no name on it. At a given time gather all your guests together and tell them to go home. Then open the gifts. If any guests refuse to leave, threaten to gesso them. Because you're a busy person with many more holiday projects to attend to. Such as getting the mayonnaise off the dog. ©1998, The Miami Herald

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In Ivory Coast, a Touch of Romance in the Night

By Norimitsu Onishi New York Times Service

BIDJAN, Ivory Coast -- The A SIDJAN, Ivory Coast — The Sun was setting far, far away, casting a mysterious glow on Ebrie Lagoon here. From her villa, Vanessa Toualy, a former hostess for Air Afrique, watched the sunset with rather sad downcast eyes, for she did not know that the athletic and dashing Christian Magon was thinking of her.

A gin and tonic in his hand, Christian stood in front of a bay window in his bachelor pad in Deux-Plateaux. He gazed long-ingly at the stars twinkling in the sky, unable to get Vanessa's be-witching smile out of his mind.

And so unfolds a scene from "Un Bonheur Inattendu," or "Un-expected Happiness," one of the six titles in Adoras, a new series of African romance novels believed to be the first of its kind. Since their premiere in May, the African Harlequins have become such a hit in the Ivory Coast that their publishers are rushing out five new books for Christmas.

They have also sold well in Senegal and other corners of Frenchspeaking Africa, apparently filling what the publishers described as a demand for romance novels with African characters, themes and set-

In "Un Bonheur Inattendu," Vanessa and Christian are Ivoirian yuppies who live here in the fancy neighborhoods of Riviera and Deux-Plateaux. Glances are exchanged, not over candlelit French dinners, but over plenty of couscous and tchepdiene, a Senegalese dish. The backdrop is Abidjan, this country's commercial cap-ital and West Africa's most modern city, with skyscrapers and wide highways built around Ebrie La-

scenes from our daily lives," said Denise Quenum, 34, a physical Denise Quenum, 34, a physical "Our children no longer talk only therapist. "It's like we're living of Snow White and Cinderella,"

each moment, each location, each name. The books talk about sun and rain, not snow and autumn."

"In Harlequin novels," she counimed, "there's always a Prince Charming, blond and blue-eyed. That was not realistic."

Empathy is critical to romance novels, said Meliane Boguifo, director of the series, which is published by Nouvelles Editions Ivoiriennes. So beyond the hero's fair looks, the staple ingredients in traditional Harlequins made them unappetizing to many Africans.

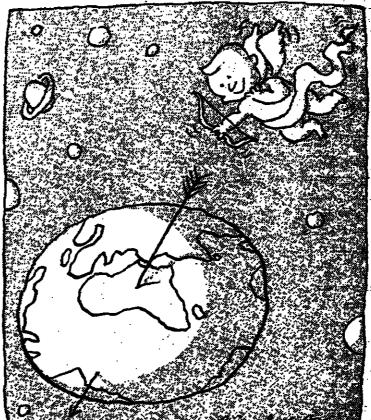
What is so sexy, Boguifo asked, about receiving a fur when the mercury is hitting 90, at night, in the cool season? "And we do not understand what is so romantic about a couple sitting together in front of a fireplace," added Bognifo, who wrote one of the novels, "Coeurs Pieges," or "Trapped Hearts."
"And 'she turned red," she

continued. "We know what it is to have blood rush up to your face, but we don't blush."

Instead, the stories are rooted in real trends or incidents. "Sugar Daddy" focuses on a relationship common in Abidjan, between a fe-male college student and a tonton, an older, rich man. In "Parfums d'Assinie," a student must drop out of college when her mother loses her entire stock of cloth in a big fire in a market, which actually occurred here last year.

Extended families, as the anchors of African societies, play prominent roles in the love stories. Sex scenes are tame by Western standards, in keeping with the heroines, who, as Boguifo put it, are all "chaste girls who only ask to give love."

Some local literary critics even praised the books as efforts to liberate this country, a French colony until 1960, from Western culture. oon. Kinimo Kanga, a critic for a daily "What's great about Adoras is newspaper in Abidjan, likened the that we can experience what's in African Harlequins to the publi-the books, because they contain cation in recent years of African children's books.



Kanga said, adding that he was sur-prised that the publishers of Adoras, presumably fearing bad reviews, had not handed out free copies.

Indeed, the author of "Symphonie et Lumiere" — the story of a blind pianist who shows a Don Juan the secrets of the human heart pleaded that only her nom de plume, Joelle Anskey, be used.

"I don't want my readers to con-fuse this novel with my other novels." she said, adding sadly that her potboiler had far outsold her more serious works.

Biton Koulibaly, who wrote 'Sugar Daddy'' in 15 days and had it published under the pseudonym of B. Williams, showed no such reserve. One of the most popular fraught with contradictions.

writers in the Ivory Coast, especially among women, Koulibaly nally bears fruit."
explained with a straight face that Back in her his story about the cash-strapped student and the tonton was supposed to be educational.

One of the goals of Adoras is to teach African men how to love."
Koulibaly said. "Women here
have evolved. They want love with one man; they want tenderness. Men are behind."

On a continent where polygamy is widespread, Koulibaly, 49, said learning about romantic love was critical to African men.

Any attempt to Africanize culture on a continent where colonial legacies are so fresh is, of course,

The publishers of the romances at the same time they advertised the fact that these novels were written by Africans for Africans, gave their anthors exotic pseudonyms, like Carmen Lopez and Christopher Hill. A marketing study showed that a clearly African name would give the book less credibility. Boguifo said.

Indeed, Patricia Mobeo, 20, a student, said she besitated before buying an Adoras. "Since when do Africans write love stories?" she said. She eventually read two said liked them, but purely as a diversion. "I tell myself that when two people are together, it's always out of some self-interest. People don't experience romantic love here.

Maybe they do over there."

Alima Konate said she did,

Over a hamburger and Fanta Konate, 30, a computer program mer, sold of how she had related to two Adons novels. In Cache
Cache d'Amon, or 'Hide-andSeek Love,' the heroine — a
Muslim member of the Malinke ethnic group, like Konate — finds true love despite a forced mar-

Then there was "Coems Pieges," the story of Kenza, a woman whose true love returns to her after a long, seductive stay in the United States. "I saw myself in Kenza," Konate said. "She nummed a love that fi-

Back in her village, she confided, when she was still a girl, Lancine Konate spent summers at his grandparents' house, across from her family's home. But like the man in the novel, Lancine left. for several years, in his case to

study in Montreal.
"The flesh is weak," Konate said, "and when he left, we weren't

on good terms."

But like every Harlequin, African or not, things ended happily. She had already started using his last name in anticipation of the big day. She reached for her soft drink and the diamond sparkled against the Fanta.

Japan lationaliza

PEOPLE



Tracy Chapman and Bruce Springsteen singing a duet at the Amnesty International concert in Paris. 1986 for "Lonesome Dove." The uni- in January 1993 at age 63.

HUMAN rights champions and vic-tims of rights abuses were among in speech and song the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Dieber Company (No. 2) and "Terms of Endearment," as well as an unfinished novel titled "The Dairy Queen." laration of Human Rights. Secretary-General Kofi Annan of the United Nations told a gathering Thursday at the Palais de Chaillot, where the declaration was signed on Dec. 10, 1948, that the challenge for rights defenders in years to Springsteen, Alanis Morrissette and fracy Chapman, among others.

Larry McMurtry has sold 44 boxes of his papers to the Texas university where he earned a master's degree and taught English Rice University announced Thursday that it had paid an

versity bought manuscripts including "Texasville," "Dead Man's Walk"

A family photo album and a collection of letters that the actress Audrey Hepcome was to do more to build on the more than \$115,000. An autograph deallegacy of the original declaration. A er paid \$40,300 for 64 family photos, huge rock concert capped the celebra- including snapshots of the actress as a tions and featured the singers Bruce child, in her school uniform; of her two sons, and of her with family and friends. Many of the pictures are inscribed on the back to her father, Anthony Hepburn-Ruston. The actress's stepmother. Fidelma Hepburn-Ruston, sold the col-

Princess Alexia, the eldest daughter of former King Constantine of Greece, has become engaged to Carles Morales. Quintana of Spain, the exiled royal family announced. The princess, 33, and Quintana, 28, will be married in July in the Greek St. Sophia Cathedral in London, the family said in a statement Queen Anne-Marie, Alexia's moth burn wrote to her father were sold at and wife of King Constantine, is the Christie's auction house Thursday for younger sister of Queen Margrethe of

A photographer has been as charges that he sold two sables charges that he sold swo taniout news-papers the illegally obtained details of a cellular phone call between Tom Cruise and his wife, Mone Kidman Eric Ford, 27, was arrested Thursday after a lection, which included letters and post-cards written by the star from 1964 to charges of Illegally inscrepting a wine 1990. They went to an unidentified communication and disclosing its con-private collector for \$75,500. The tents for finishing and the control of the cont undisclosed "six figure" sum for the papers, mostly related to McMurry's works since he won the Pulitzer Prize in "Roman Holiday," "Breakfast listen to the Politzer Prize in at Tiffany's" and "My Fair Lady," died the constants on March 16 to News of the World a newspaper in London.



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